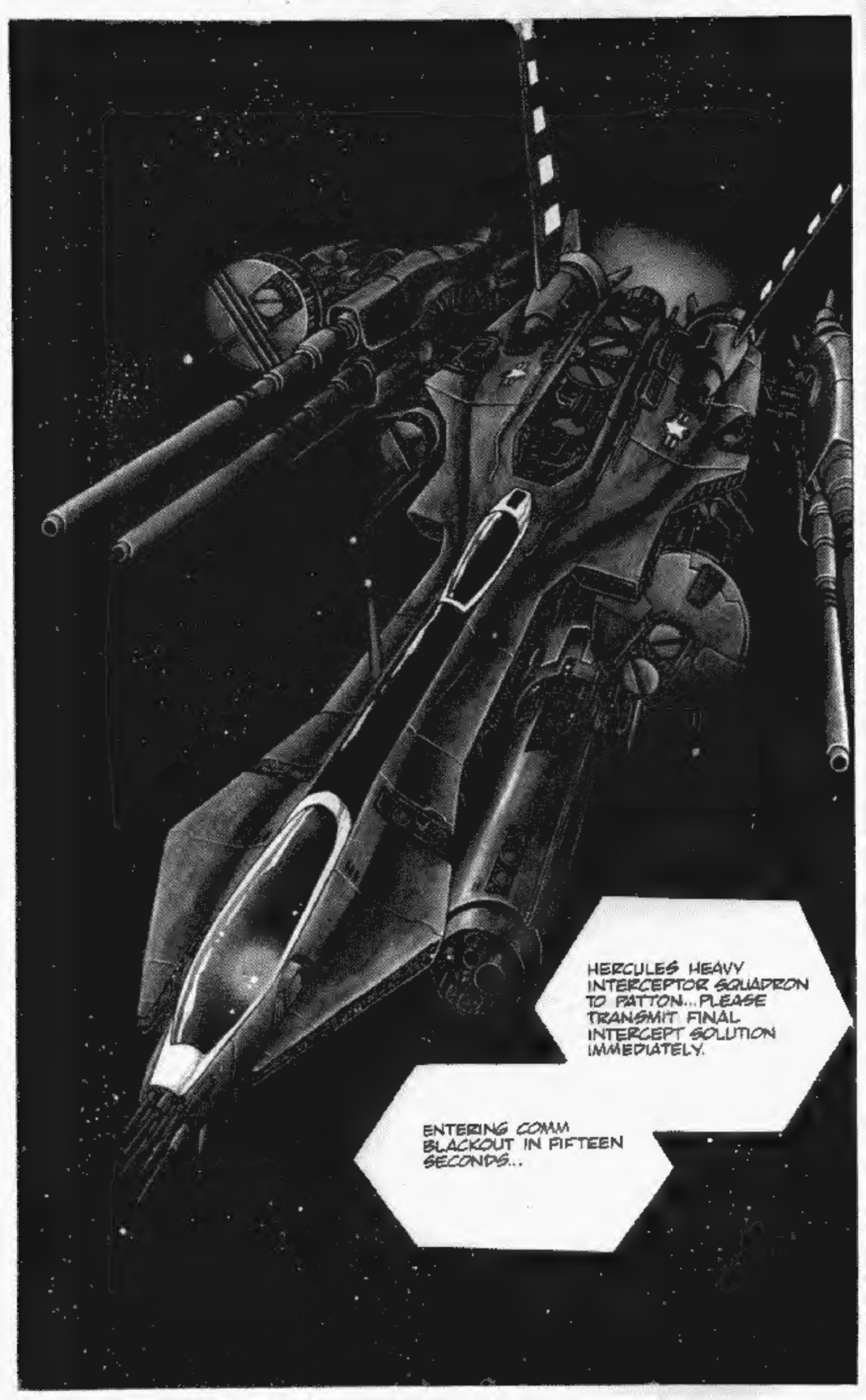
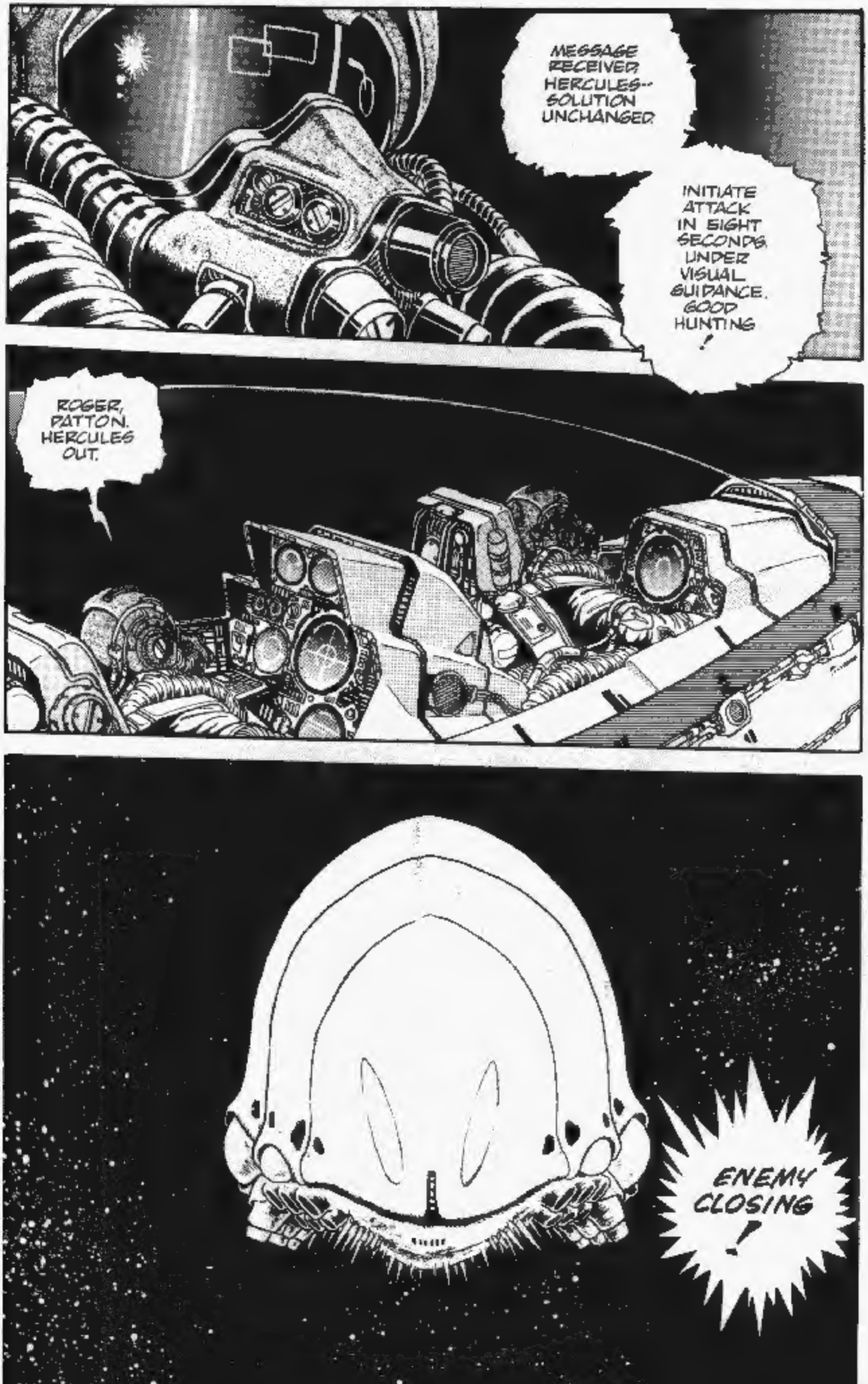
FLAGSHIP GEORGE PATTON TO HERCULES... ESTIMATED INTERCEPT COORDINATES X-SEVENTY, NINETY. CONTACT REPORT REQUESTED.
ESTIMATED LENGTH, 4,000 FEET...MASS UNKNOWN. APPEARS TO BE AN EXTREMELY HIGH-DENSITY ORGANIC CONSTRUCTION. COURSE UNCHANGED... CONTINUING TO DECELERATE.
RELATIVE INTERSECT SPEED 37,000 FEET PER SECOND...ENTERING EFFECTIVE FIRING RANGE IN TWENTY-FOUR SECONDS.


HERCULES HEAVY INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON TO PATTON... PLEASE TRANSMIT FINAL INTERCEPT SOLUTION IMMEDIATELY.
ENTERING COMM BLACKOUT IN FIFTEEN SECONDS...


MESSAGE RECEIVED. HERCULES-- SOLUTION UNCHANGED.
INITIATE ATTACK IN EIGHT SECONDS. UNDER VISUAL GUIDANCE. GOOD HUNTING!
ROGER, PATTON. HERCULES OUT.
ENEMY CLOSING!

ALL HERCULES UNITS, THIS IS YOUR COMMANDER SPEAKING!

DEPLOY INTO ATTACK FORMATION!

SAFETY INTERLOCKS OFF! BEAM WEAPONS BACKUP CAPACITORS GREEN!

THE ENEMY HAS NO BLIND SPOTS..

MASS ANALYSIS INDICATES HEAVY ARMOR EVENLY DISTRIBUTED OVER THE ENTIRE HULL.

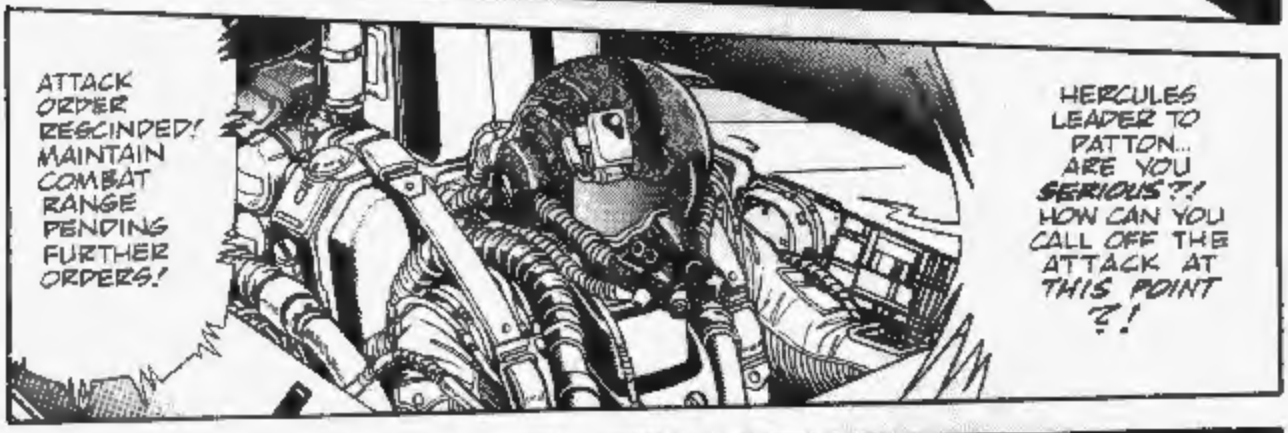
CONCENTRATE ALL FIRE ON THEIR BOW!

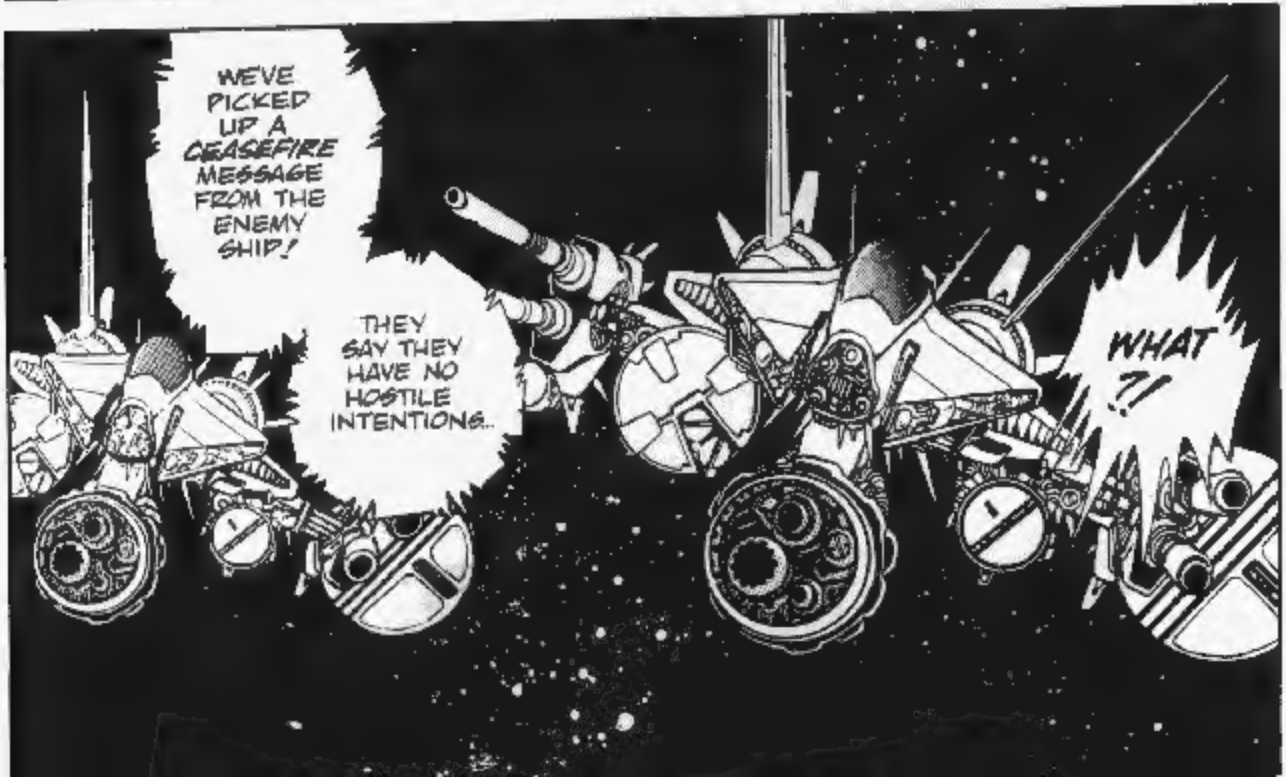
PARTICLE-BEAM GUN CYCLOTRON RING FULL! MAXIMUM POWER!

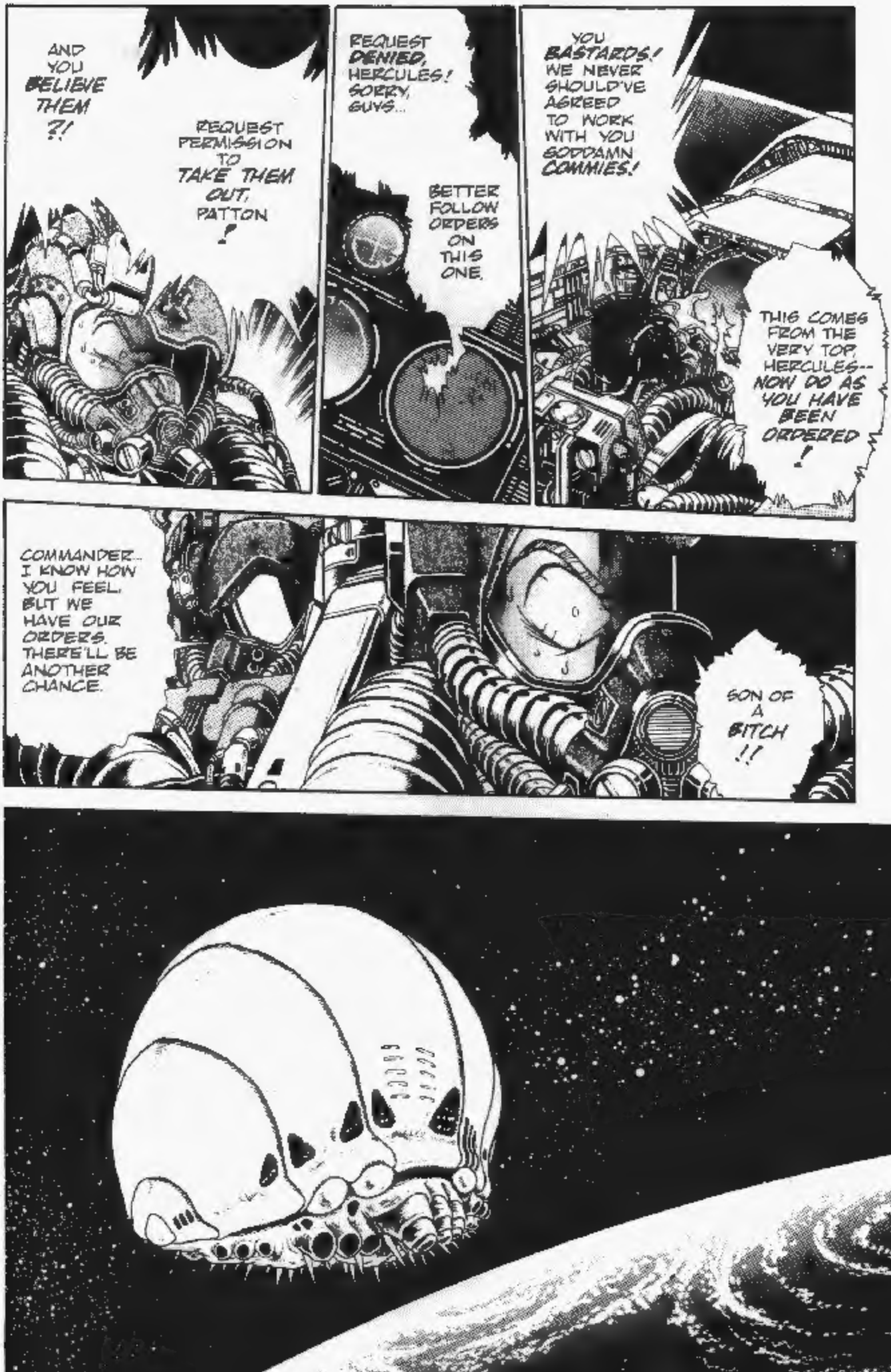
THEY TURNED OUR COUNTRY INTO A MASS OF SMOKING CRATERS, SO LET'S MAKE THEM PAY!

READY ALL GUNS! FIRE ON MY COMMAND, N--

DON'T SHOOT!!


ATTACK ORDER RESCINDED! MAINTAIN COMBAT RANGE PENDING FURTHER ORDERS!
HERCULES LEADER TO PATTON... ARE YOU *SERIOUS*?! HOW CAN YOU CALL OFF THE ATTACK AT *THIS POINT*?!


WE'VE PICKED UP A *CEASEFIRE* MESSAGE FROM THE ENEMY SHIP!
THEY SAY THEY HAVE NO HOSTILE INTENTIONS..
WHAT?!


AND YOU BELIEVE THEM ?!
REQUEST PERMISSION TO TAKE THEM OUT, PATTON !
REQUEST DENIED, HERCULES! SORRY, GUYS...
BETTER FOLLOW ORDERS ON THIS ONE.
YOU BASTARDS! WE NEVER SHOULD'VE AGREED TO WORK WITH YOU GODDAMN COMMIES!
THIS COMES FROM THE VERY TOP, HERCULES-- NOW DO AS YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED !
COMMANDER... I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. BUT WE HAVE OUR ORDERS. THERE'LL BE ANOTHER CHANCE.
SON OF A BITCH !!

WELL, IT SEEMS THEY UNDERSTOOD OUR MESSAGE...
YEAH, BUT TELL ME, BATTIA--WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT TETSUYA HAVE IN MIND?
"JOIN FORCES" WITH THE EARTHLINGS?
WHAT THE HELL FOR?!
THAT AIN'T EVEN A GOOD JOKE! WE DON'T NEED THEIR HELP FOR NOTHIN'!
THEY'RE JUST GONNA GET IN OUR WAY!
WELL, TETSUYA'S AN EARTHLING TOO, REMEMBER.
WE MAY BE A REBEL ARMY, BUT AS FAR AS THOSE GUYS DOWN THERE ARE CONCERNED, THE ONLY GOOD SANTOVASKU IS A DEAD ONE!

TETSUYA KNOWS THAT-- HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE ATTACKED FROM BEHIND BY HIS OWN PEOPLE.
BY JOINING FORCES WITH THEM, HE MAKES OUR POSITION IN THIS WHOLE THING CRYSTAL CLEAR, RIGHT?

YEAH, SURE, BUT...
...DO THOSE DAMNED MONKEYS HAVE ANYTHING TO *FIGHT WITH*?

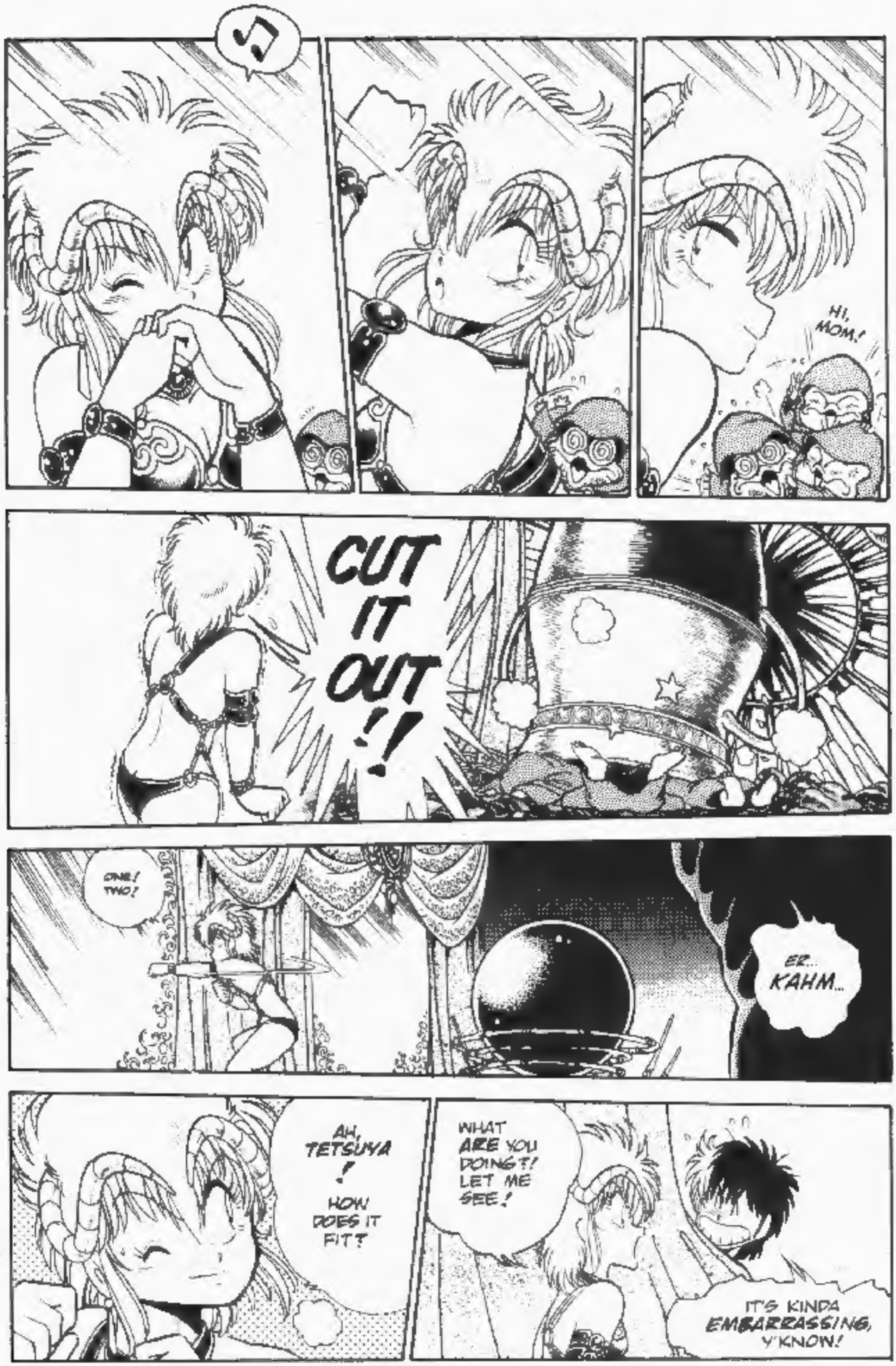
THAT'S TRUE... THEIR WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE A LAUGH.
BUT DID YOU HEAR...?

PROGRESSO'S FLEET--TEN BATTLESHIPS AND OVER A HUNDRED SUPPORT VESSELS-- WAS WIPED OUT DOWN THERE... AND IN *SECONDS*.

HUH! FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT. NOTHIN' ABOUT THAT IN THE INTEL BRIEFINGS.
IT WAS *INCREDIBLE*, GEOBALDI...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF WEAPON THEY USED...
...BUT IT JUST *MIGHT* BE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THE EMPIRE'S *ENTIRE* WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY!

OH, YUCK! I'M GETTING FAT, AREN'T I?
OH, NO, PRINCESS-- ABSOLUTELY NOT. SUPERB PROPORTIONS, AS ALWAYS, YES, INDEED!
YOU THINK SO...?
YOU'RE RIGHT! A GENUINE KNOCKOUT!


♫
HI, MOM!
CUT IT OUT!!
ONE! TWO!
ER... KAHM...
AH, TETSUYA! HOW DOES IT FIT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LET ME SEE!
IT'S KINDA EMBARRASSING, Y'KNOW!

♫ WOW !
I DUNNO. IT'S KINDA CLUNKY
NO IT ISN'T! IT LOOKS GREAT !
LOOKS A LITTLE WIMPY DOESN'T HE?
YES, YES! NO AUTHORITY. NO--
BUT HE'S GOING TO BE THE CROWN PRINCE-- CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
YEEK!
WHAT WAS THAT ?!
AUTHORITY? HMM ?

STAND UP STRAIGHT !
CHEST OUT !
CHIN UP !!
HMMM
I SEE.
ULTRA MYOPIC
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN..
BUT HE'S ALL I HAVE TO WORK WITH.
SO SORRY I WAS BORN !!
I'M SORRY I KNOW I'M NO GOOD I'LL JUST CRAWL INTO A CORNER SOMEWHERE
OH DON'T BE SO SILLY! IT WAS JUST A JOKE! HONEST!

A CEASEFIRE ?!
YES SIR THE ENEMY COMMUNICATION CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE HOSTILITIES
THEY'RE DEMANDING WE OPEN PEACE TALKS SOMEWHERE ON EARTH WITH N TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, THE--
TH.S S INSANE !
--THE LOCATION TO BE SELECTED BY EARTH NEGOT ATORS
THEY SAY THEY WANT A REPLY INSIDE OF TWELVE HOURS.
....
WHAT ON EARTH CAN THIS MEAN ?
DEMANDING A PEACE CONFERENCE ?
OUT OF THE BLUE ?
DON'T FALL FOR IT !
THIS STINKS OF A PLOT !
NOT NECESSARILY PERHAPS WE SHOULD READ TH S AS A TACTICAL REORIENTATION N RESPONSE TO OUR CONTINUING RESISTANCE

THANKS TO LADY J'LEHR'S POWERS, WE'VE INFLICTED SEVERE DAMAGE ON THEIR FLEET

THEIR CHAIN OF COMMAND MAY WELL BE IN DISARRAY.

IT WOULDN'T BE SURPRISING IF THEY *WERE* SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING NEGOTIATIONS

GENERAL TOGO AS JOINT CHIEF OF STAFF, WHAT DO *YOU* TH NK Z

N THAT CASE WHY DID THEY ATTACK MY COUNTRY?! WHY DID THEY DESTROY THE U.S ?!

AS A DEMONSTRATION OF MIL TARY SUPERIORITY A BARGAIN NG CH.P TO BRING TO THE NEGOTIATION TABLE?

THEY *HAVE* REINFORCED THE Z FLEET

WELL

GENERAL TOGO! YOU, TOO, HAVE LOST YOUR COUNTRY TO THESE MONSTERS !

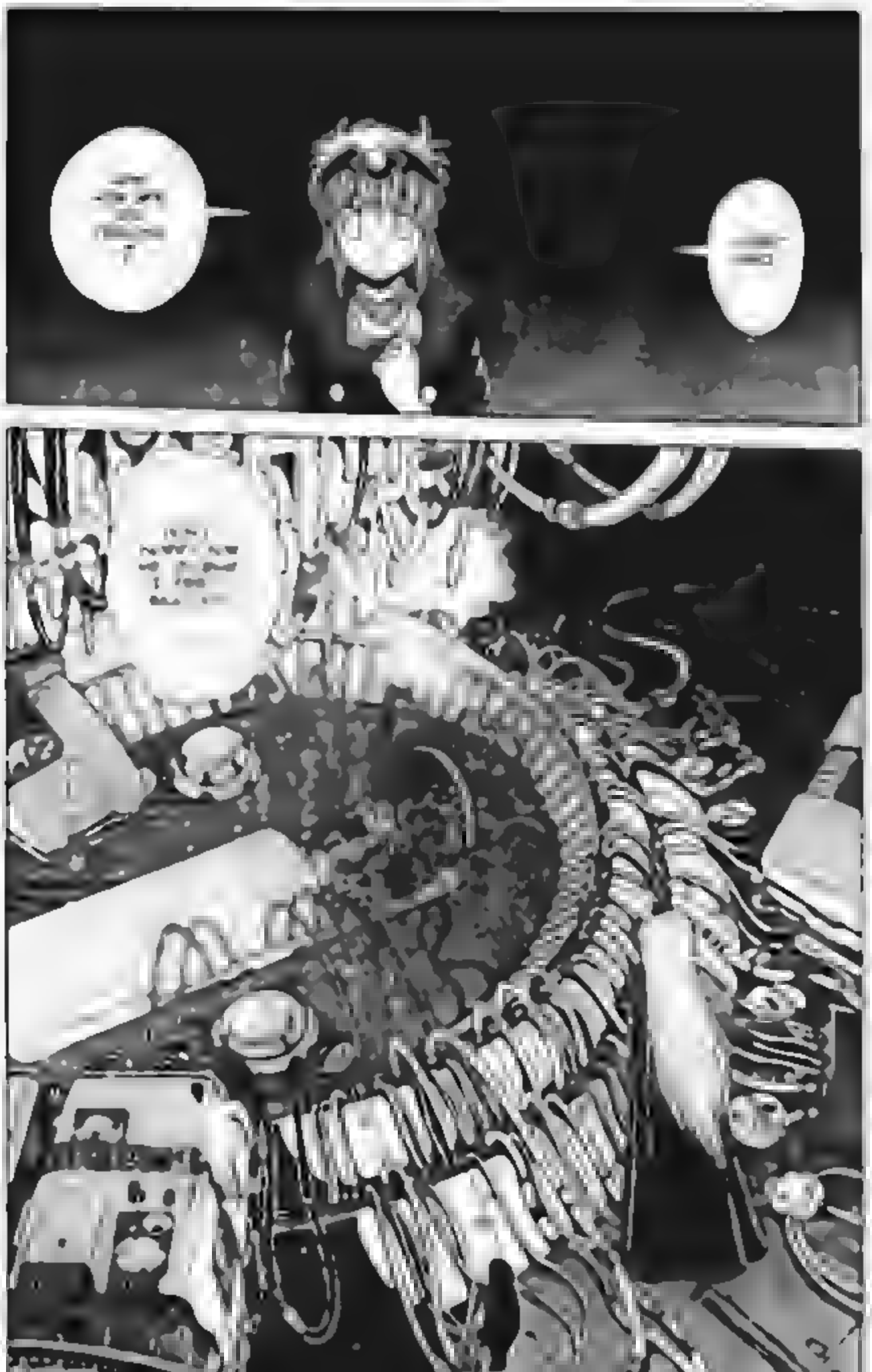
YOU DON'T INTEND TO GIVE IN AND NEGOT.ATE, DO YOU ?!

GENERAL MACDONALD WE UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS. BUT *CONTROL YOURSELF* !

WELL TOGO Z

PERSONALLY I'D LIKE A CHANCE TO MEET THESE

THESE *"ALIENS"*



I HAVE LIVED LONG SINCE THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR MOTHERLAND RA I HAVE SLEPT LONG. BORROWED MANY A HUMAN BODY

BUT IT SEEMS THIS CARCASS WILL BE MY LAST

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING MY LORD ?!

THOSE ARE FOOLISH WORDS TO HEAR FROM THE IMMORTAL LORD NEO!

"IMMORTAL" ? NO. I HAVE LIVED SO LONG ONLY BECAUSE VENGEANCE GRIPPED ME. BODY AND SOUL

"I SHALL NOT DIE" I THOUGHT "UNTIL VENGEANCE IS MINE"

BUT I AM WEARY NOW I'LL BE SO WEARY

IT SEEMS THAT BY REAWAKENING YOUR SPIRIT I HAVE BROUGHT MY OWN MISSION TO AN END

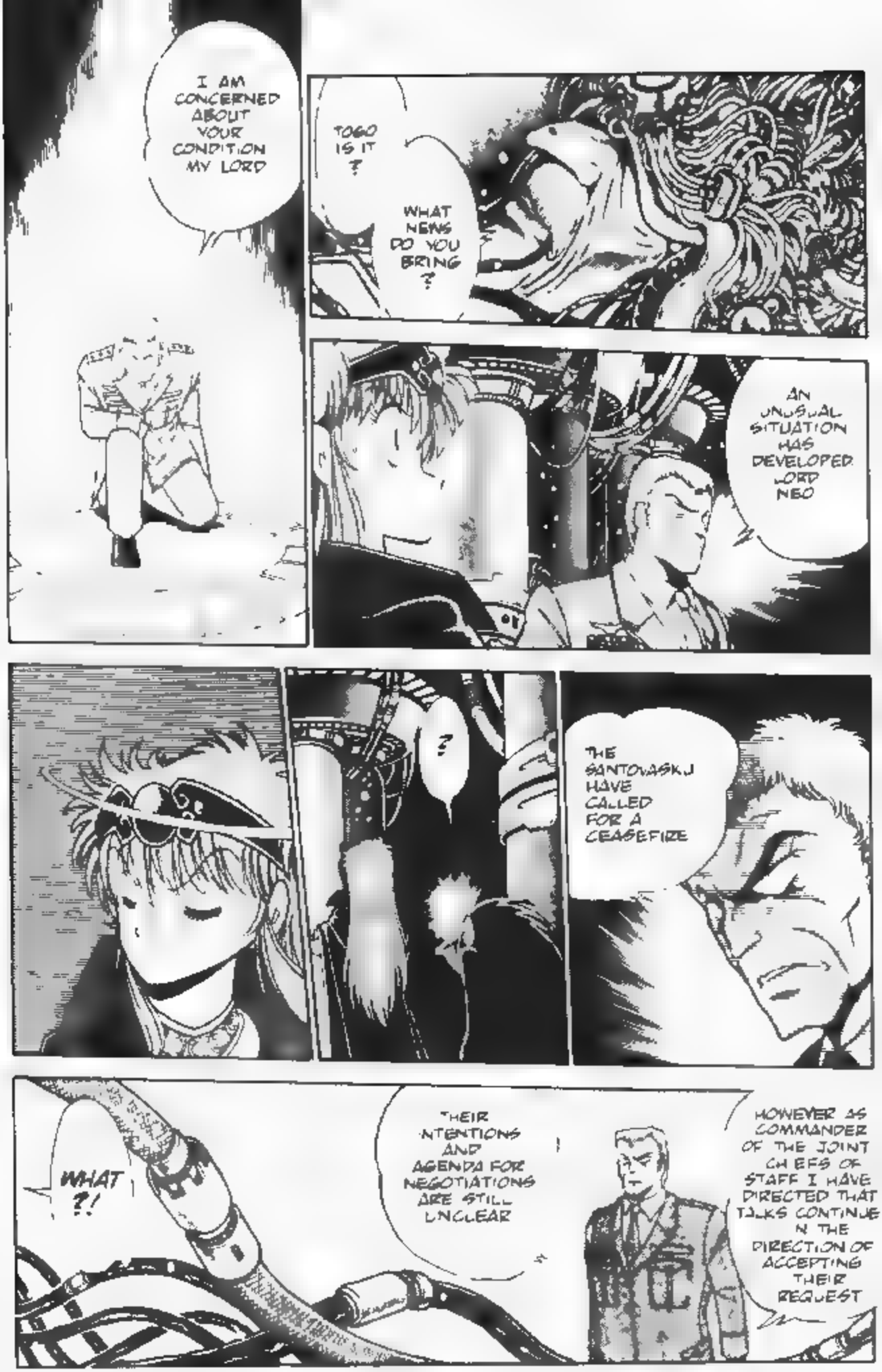
I NO LONGER HAVE THE STRENGTH TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER BODY NOW I AM NOTHING MORE THAN AN OLD MAN FELLED BY ILLNESS

YET I DEARLY WISH TO SEE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SANTOVASKU WHILE I STILL LIVE

...

TO DESTROY THE SANTOVASKU EMPIRE--
--YOU MUST DESTROY THE EMPEROR!
"THE SANTOVASKU IMPERIAL LINE IS HEREDITARY
WHAT HAS MADE THE AUTHORITY OF THE THRONE UNSHAKEABLE FOR GENERATIONS IS THE POWER OF THE EMPEROR HIMSELF."
"HE AND THOSE OF HIS BLOODLINE CARRY WITCHERY ENOUGH TO MASTER THE WILL OF A HUNDRED ARMIES."
YET YOU HAVE THE POWER TO PREVAIL! I KNOW THIS!
YOU ARE THE GREATEST SORCERESS IN THE HISTORY OF OUR CLAN--A WITCH WITHOUT PEER YOU WILL DESTROY THE SANTOVASKU!
"NEO HAS TRICKED YOU, LEHR!!
"HES BRAINWASHED YOU INTO THINKING YOU'RE A SORCERESS!"

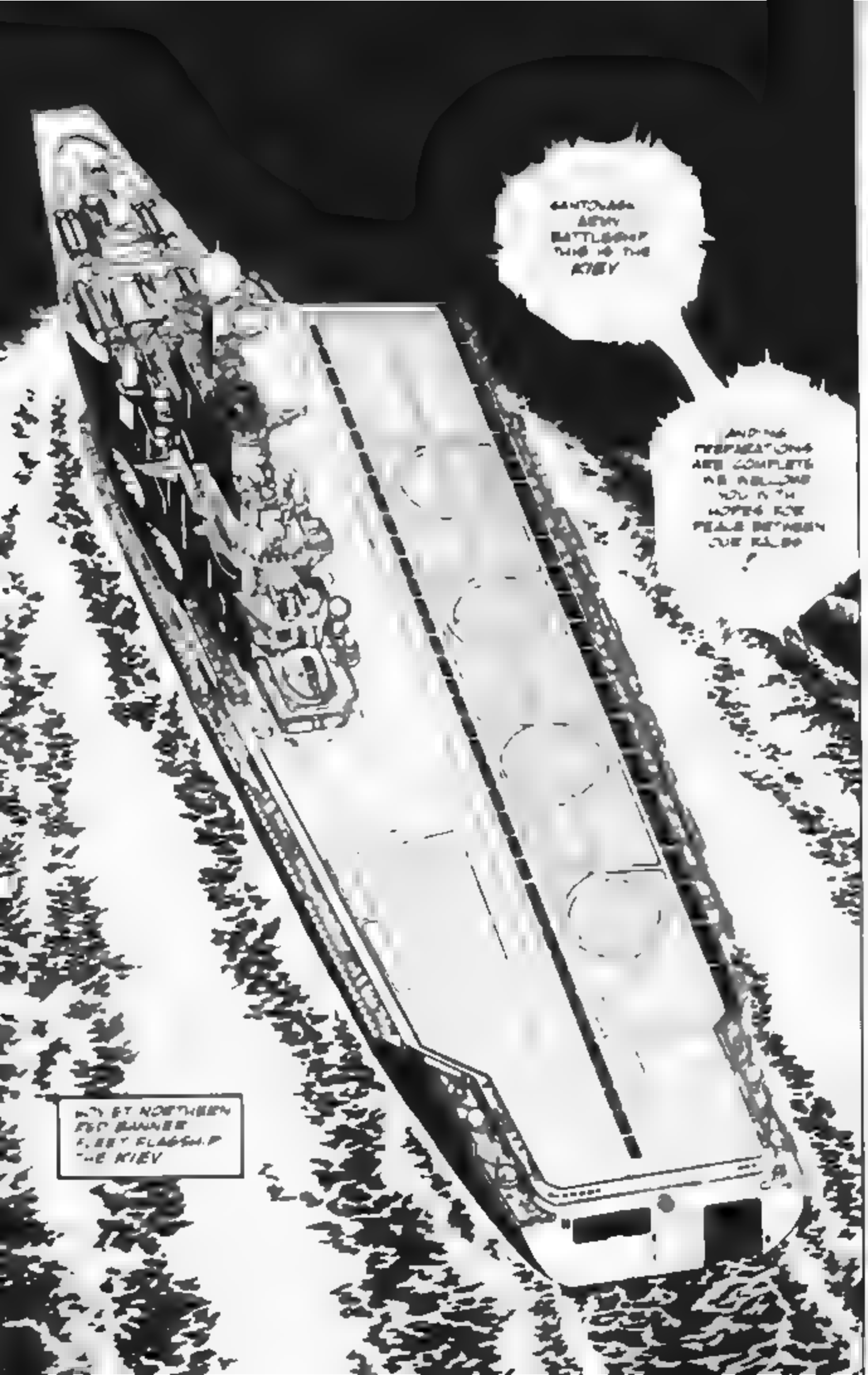
JILEHR!!
WHAT IS WRONG? DO YOU HAVE SOME THOUGHT YOU WISH TO SHARE?
N-NO NOTH NG SPECIAL MY LORD
LISTEN WELL, JILEHR--UNTIL YOU HAVE DESTROYED THE SANTOVASKU, LET NO OTHER THOUGHT INTRUDE UPON YOUR MIND!
TO DO SO INVITES YOUR DEATH
YES MY LORD
FORGIVE ME LORD NEO!
VSSST
LORD NEO!

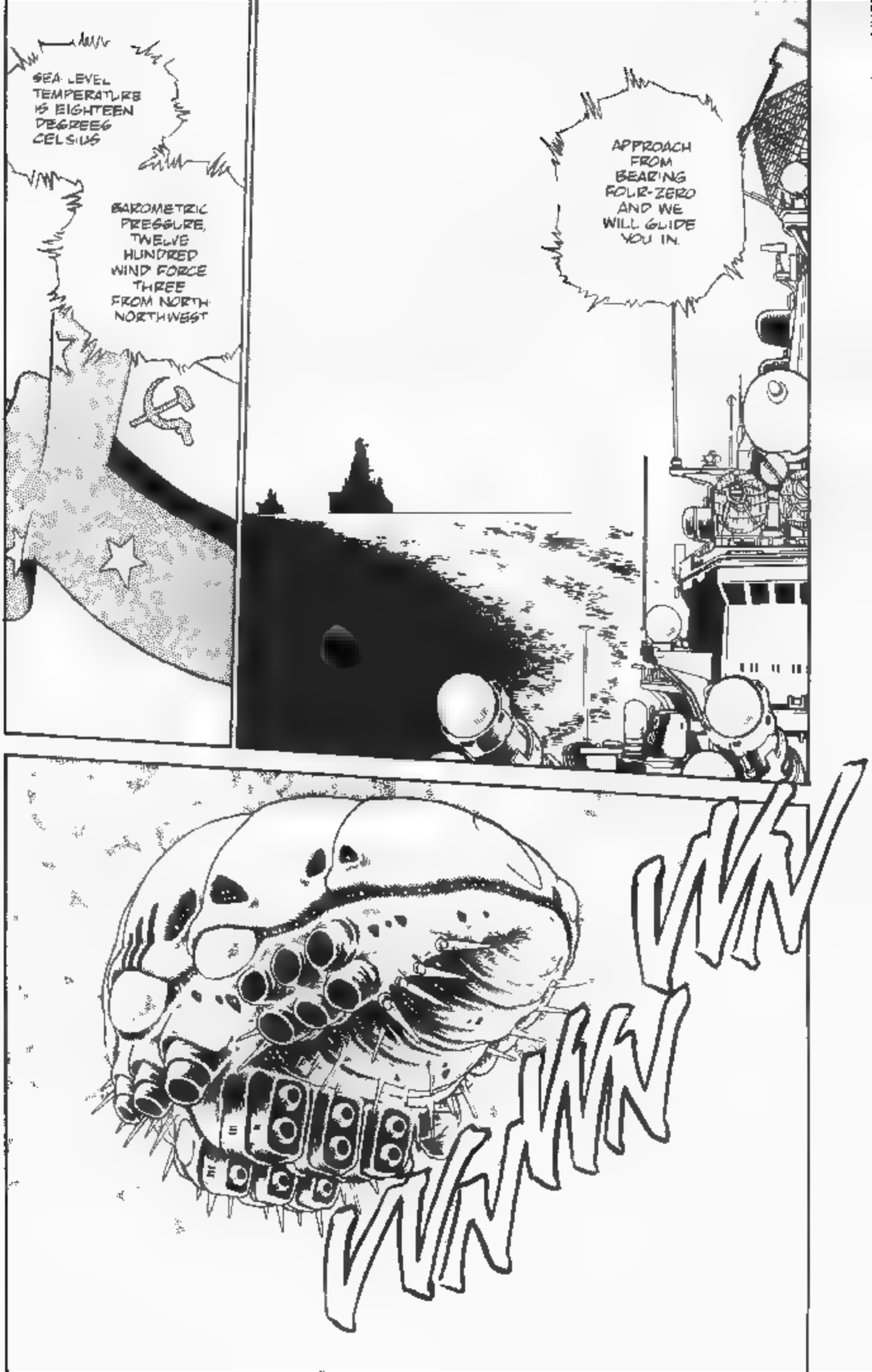

I AM CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR CONDITION MY LORD
TOGO IS IT ?
WHAT NEWS DO YOU BRING ?
AN UNUSUAL SITUATION HAS DEVELOPED LORD NEO
?
THE SANTOVASKJ HAVE CALLED FOR A CEASEFIRE
WHAT ?!
THEIR INTENTIONS AND AGENDA FOR NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL UNCLEAR
HOWEVER AS COMMANDER OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF I HAVE DIRECTED THAT TALKS CONTINUE IN THE DIRECTION OF ACCEPTING THEIR REQUEST

NO! I FORBID IT! THEY ARE ONLY SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT JILEHR! IS IT NOT OBVIOUS YOU FOOL?!
THEY FEAR THE POWER OF JILEHR!
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT TOO, AT FIRST
BUT NOW,
IT WOULD APPEAR THEY HAVE ANOTHER REASON.
AND WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?!
WE HAVE FINALLY IDENTIFIED THE PERSON WHO WAS SPIRITED OUT OF WEST GERMANY BY A MEMBER OF THE SANTOVASKU IMPERIAL FAMILY
HIS NAME IS TETSUYA WAKATSUKI--
-A JAPANESE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

YES? AND WHAT OF IT?
WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT WAKATSUKI IS BEHIND THIS CEASEFIRE
IT SEEMS HE MAY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REACH SOME SORT OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THESE ALIENS
RIDICULOUS!
WHAT COULD ONE OF YOU HUMANS DO? AND A MERE CHILD AT THAT!
BUT WHEN YOU ADD A SANTOVASKU PRINCESS TO THE EQUATION
AFTER ALL, THE REPORTS SAID THAT HE WAS "VERY CLOSE" TO THIS PRINCESS.
IDIOCY!
WHY DO YOU WASTE MY TIME WITH THIS FOOLISHNESS! LEAVE ME!
LORD NEO!
WHAT IS IT, JILEHR?
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO MEET THESE CREATURES!

YOU?!
OUR SECRET WEAPON IN THIS WAR? WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I LET YOU GO?
MY LORD I HAVE NO INTENTION OF APPEARING BEFORE THEM
BUT
I WISH TO SEE WITH MY OWN EYES THOSE IN TH WHOM I MUST DO BATTLE!
EVEN MORE SO F SHE IS A SANTOVASKU PRINCESS!
J-LEHR WHAT HAS COME OVER YOU?
MY LORD I BEG OF YOU!

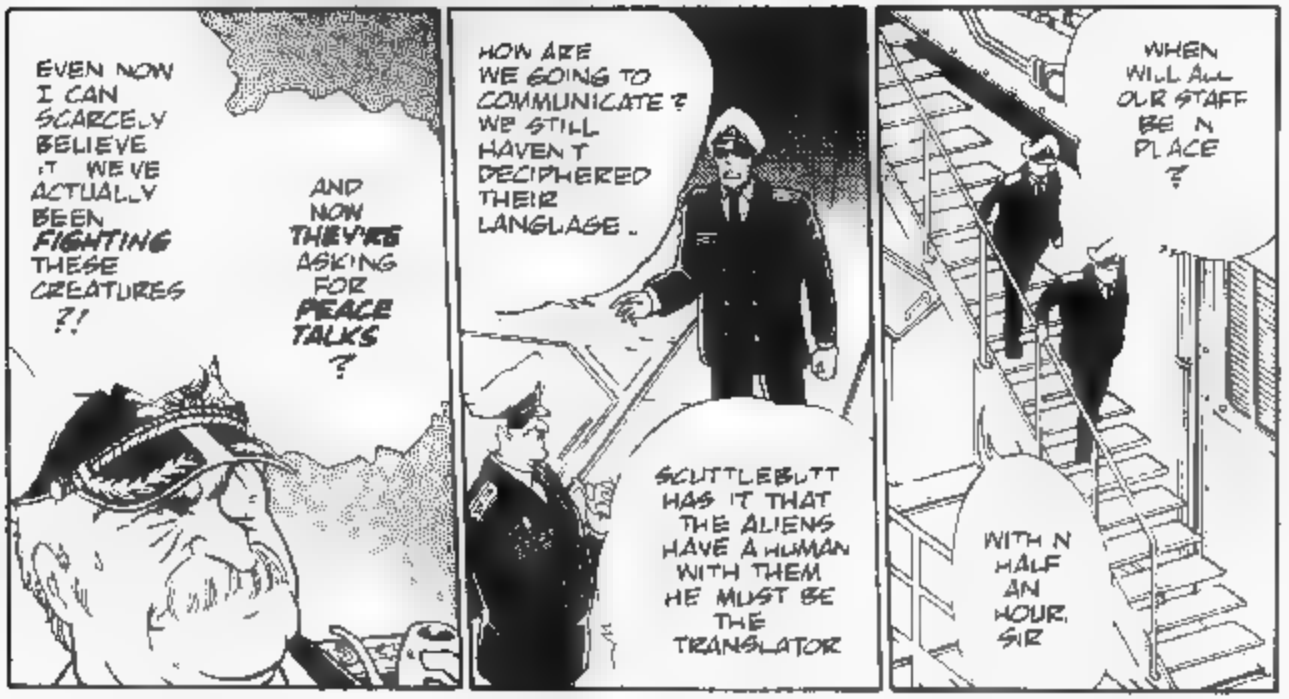

GANTOLIAN ARMY BATTLESHIP THING IS THE KIEV
AND THE PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETE AS AGREED YOU IN TH HOPES FOR PEACE BETWEEN OUR REALMS
MOVIET NORTHERN FLEET BANNER FLEET FLAGSHIP THE KIEV


SEA LEVEL TEMPERATURE IS EIGHTEEN DEGREES CELSIUS
BAROMETRIC PRESSURE, TWELVE HUNDRED WIND FORCE THREE FROM NORTH NORTHWEST
APPROACH FROM BEARING FOUR-ZERO AND WE WILL GUIDE YOU IN.
WWWWW

SEE THERE'S A WHOLE BUNCH OF TSY-BITSY THINGS FLOATING ON THE WATER DOWN THERE
THOSE ARE SHIPS, KAHM EARTH WARSHIPS
HUH. WELL WHICH ONE SHOULD WE LAND ON TETSUVA?
THAT ONE DON'T YOU THINK?
TIS PRETTY BIG
A RENDEZVOUS AT SEA HMMM? HOW ROMANTIC...

WWWWW

GOOD GOD! IT'S HUGE !!
OVER A MILE LONG!
ALL SHIPS! UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES TAKE ANY HOSTILE ACTION- WE'D BE DESTROYED!


EVEN NOW I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE IT WE'VE ACTUALLY BEEN FIGHTING THESE CREATURES ?!
AND NOW THEY'RE ASKING FOR PEACE TALKS ?
HOW ARE WE GOING TO COMMUNICATE ? WE STILL HAVEN'T DECIPHERED THEIR LANGUAGE..
SCUTTLEBUTT HAS IT THAT THE ALIENS HAVE A HUMAN WITH THEM. HE MUST BE THE TRANSLATOR
WHEN WILL ALL OUR STAFF BE IN PLACE ?
WITH IN HALF AN HOUR, SIR

SOMETHING'S DESCENDING.
WHA
SOME KIND OF SHUTTLECRAFT ?
WHROOM
EE-YAA!!

FIRE ON THE HANGAR DECK! FIRE-CONTROL SQUADS ON THE DOUBLE!
WE'RE LISTING TO PORT! FLOOD THE STARBOARD BALLAST TANKS!
ADMIRAL!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
HHNN

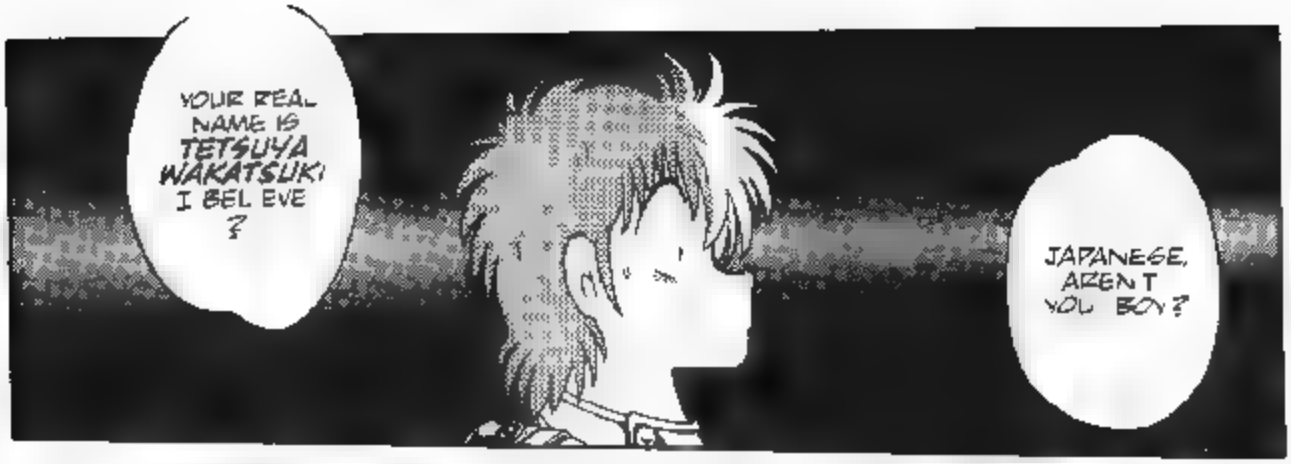
THEY'RE COMING OUT!
PARADE FORMATION! STEP ON IT!
OH, JEEZ...
Ahhh..
WHAT THE HELL? THOSE ARE THE ALIENS?
LOOK AT THOSE TWO BABES!!
NO SHIT, MAN!
YEAH BUT LOOK AT THAT BEAR MAN..
AND ALL THOSE WEIRD LITTLE BUGGERS

ATTEN-
SHUN
!!

WEL-WE..COME TO THE KIEV!
I AM REAR-ADMIRAL RENKO, SENIOR NAVAL AFFAIRS ATTACHE FIRST CLASS OF THE UN ON OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

ER WERE REALLY SORRY ABOUT YOUR SHIP, THERE!
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HER DRIVING SHE'S A TERROR BEHIND THE WHEEL. HA HA..
Hmph!

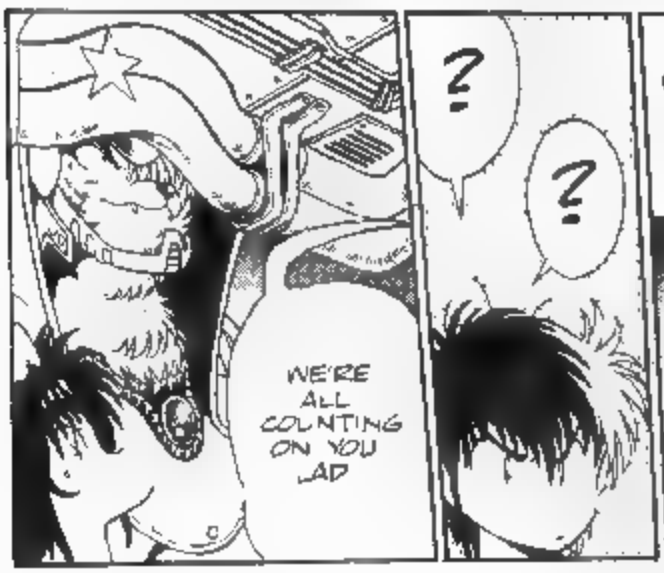
N-NO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT T!
PLEASE, WOULD YOU FOLLOW ME?
whew..
EEP!
HEH HEH!
HI-HEE-- HA H-HELLO!


YOUR REAL NAME IS TETSUYA WAKATSUKI I BELIEVE ?
JAPANESE, AREN'T YOU BOY?

HEY! HOW'D YOU KNOW MY NAME ?!
WE RECEIVED A REPORT ABOUT YOU FROM GENERAL TOGO
"TOGO" ? THAT'S A JAPANESE NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR TOO.
THE GENERAL KNOWS THAT YOUR HARD WORK IS BEHIND THIS CEASEFIRE--

--AND THAT YOU HOLD THE KEY TO ENDING THIS WAR

TETSUYA!!


WE'RE ALL COUNTING ON YOU LAD
?
?
PLEASE, IN HERE

I MISSED YOU SO MUCH!!
WHA--?!
RA--
RAISA?!
RAISA! IS IT REALLY YOU?!
YOU REMEMBER ME! I'M SO HAPPY!
BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? HOW? WHY? WHA--
OH SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED! I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT LATER!
GEE, YOU LOOK LIKE A REAL IDIOT IN THOSE CLOTHES!

BEEN A WHILE HASN'T IT -
--MISS ALIEN!
HEY HEY HEY! LAY OFF YOU TWO!
KAHM. DON'T TRY TO START ANYTHING, OKAY?!
WELL, WELL. JUST WHAT IS GOING ON BETWEEN YOU AND THIS GIRL, TETSUYA?
RAISA CUT IT OUT WITH THAT "MISS ALIEN" STUFF!
HaHaHa
WHAT'S GOING ON? WELL ER HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN THIS?
WE'RE ENGAGED! SORT OF AN INTERSPACIAL MARRIAGE. IF YOU GET MY DRIFT
nein nein

PRETTY WEIRD, HUH? AFTER ALL, KAHM AND I ARE BOTH ALIENS, AT LEAST TO EACH OTHER
BUT I FIGURE T'LL ALL WORK OUT PRETTY WELL IN THE END

ARE WE READY, THEN? I'LL SHOW YOU TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM
OH, SURE THANKS
NOW YOU STOP THAT KAHM! DON'T ACT THIS WAY!
LET BYGONES BE BYGONES!
FINE WITH ME HMPH!

HOLD IT!
HUH?

R-RAISA WHAT-
HEY!
ABOUT YOUR ENGAGEMENT
CONGRATULATIONS !!
SMAK!!
HEY!!!
R-RAISA
YOU LECHEROUS TRAITOR!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE T!! I CAN'T !!!

DON'T YOU HAVE ANY PRIDE?! YOU'RE A HUMAN DAMMIT!!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF HIM!
EXPLAIN YOURSELF, YOU CREEP!!
I-- SHE-- WAIT!!
DON'T YOU TOUCH ME, YOU ALIEN!!
SMAK!!
SMAK!
SMAK!
OOOOHH!! THE ALIEN HIT ME!! T H T ME TWICE!!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS "ALIEN" CRAP! YOU--
GODDAMN IT! STOP, BOTH OF YOU!
STOP IT, I SAID!!
WHAT THE HELL-?!
EEEK! SMAK!
SMAK!
SMAK!
NO CEASEFIRE N EFFECT HERE..!

hahh
hahh
hahh
hahh
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, WOMAN?! YOU WERE SENT HERE AS A MEDIATOR!
ARE YOU INSANE?! THE FIRST THING YOU DO IS ATTACK THE DELEGATION!
Hmmh!
TAKE HER ABOVE-DECK!
FOR-FORGIVE HER, PRINCESS! ARE YOU HURT?
WELL, WE WERE AT FAULT TOO.

IT WAS NOT MY FAULT !
RIGHT RIGHT! Ouuuu
PLEASE, BE SEATED
TO BE CONTINUED

$2.25 USA
$3.00 Canada

OUTLANDERS™

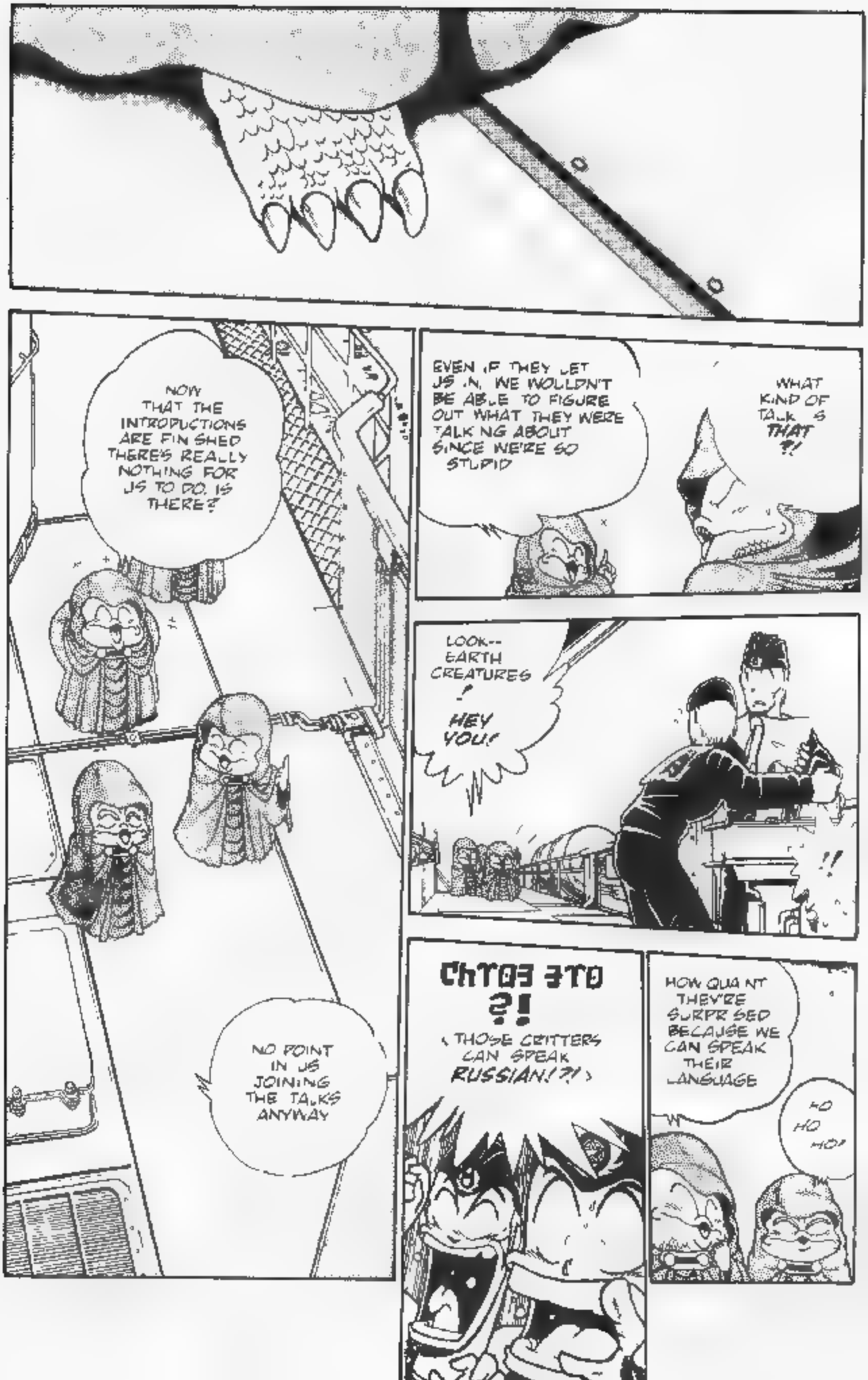
BOOK XVII

by OHJI MANABE

STUDIO PROTEUS

OUTLANDERS™

BOOK XVIII


NOW THAT THE INTRODUCTIONS ARE FIN SHED THERE'S REALLY NOTHING FOR JS TO DO. IS THERE?
NO POINT IN JS JOINING THE TALKS ANYWAY
EVEN IF THEY LET JS IN, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY WERE TALK NG ABOUT SINCE WE'RE SO STUPID
WHAT KIND OF TALK S THAT ?!
LOOK-- EARTH CREATURES !
HEY YOU!
!!
CHTO∃ ƎTO ?!
(THOSE CRITTERS CAN SPEAK RUSSIAN! ?!)
HOW QUA NT THEY'RE SURPR SED BECAUSE WE CAN SPEAK THEIR LANGUAGE
HO HO HO!

ACTUALLY BOSS. HOW COME WE CAN SPEAK THEIR LANGUAGE HUH? YOU KNOW EVERYTH NG. RIGHT?

ER WELL YES, OF COURSE! IT'S BECAUSE

JHMM ER

PRINCESS KAHM HAS ER "UTI..ZED THE MASSIVE PROPULSION FIELD OF OUR BATTLESHIP AS A BROADCAST RELAY IN ORDER TO AFFECT THIS ENTIRE AREA WITH A TRANSLATION SPELL

.THUS AL..OWING ALL THE RACES N A FOUR MRETZ RADIUS TO COMMUNICATE FREELY"

BOSS! YOU CHEATED !

I HEARD THAT THE PRINCESS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO TOUCH MOUTHS WITH ALL THE EARTHL.NG BIGWIGS

BUT FOR SOME REASON, MR TETSUYA HAD A FIT WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT IT

SAY MEGANE... WHAT'S THAT TH NG ?

OH THIS ?

IT'S A HAT !

REMEMBER THAT G RL WHO FOUGHT WITH PR NCESS KAHM?

IT FELL OFF AND SHE LEFT WITHOUT IT

GREAT FNORD !!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE YOU LUNATIC ?!

WELL I THOUGHT I'D GIVE IT BACK

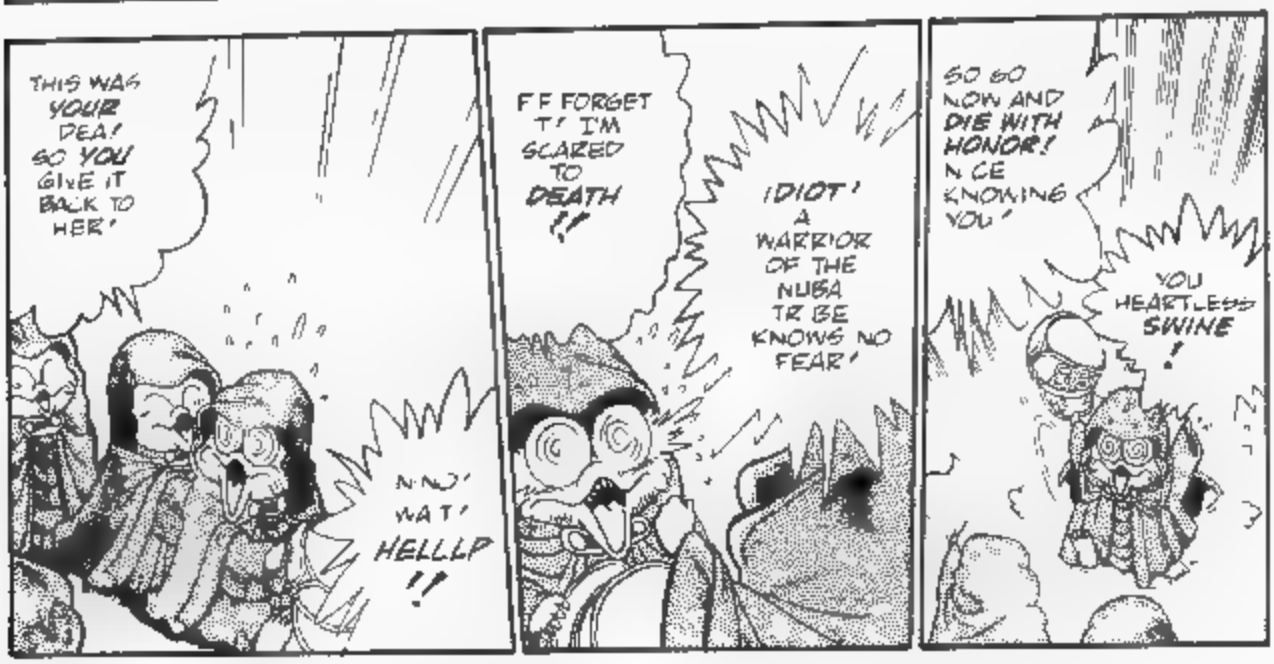
AND AND TH THERE SHE S !!

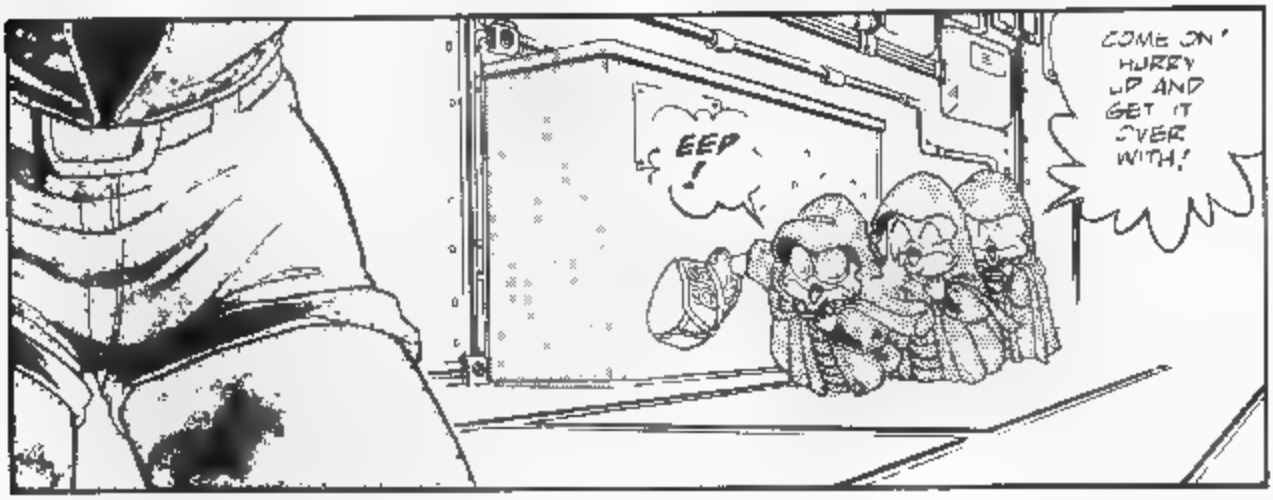
YOU IDIOT!! IF SHE SEES US WALK NG AROUND WITH THAT WE'RE DEAD! SHE'LL KILL US ALL!!

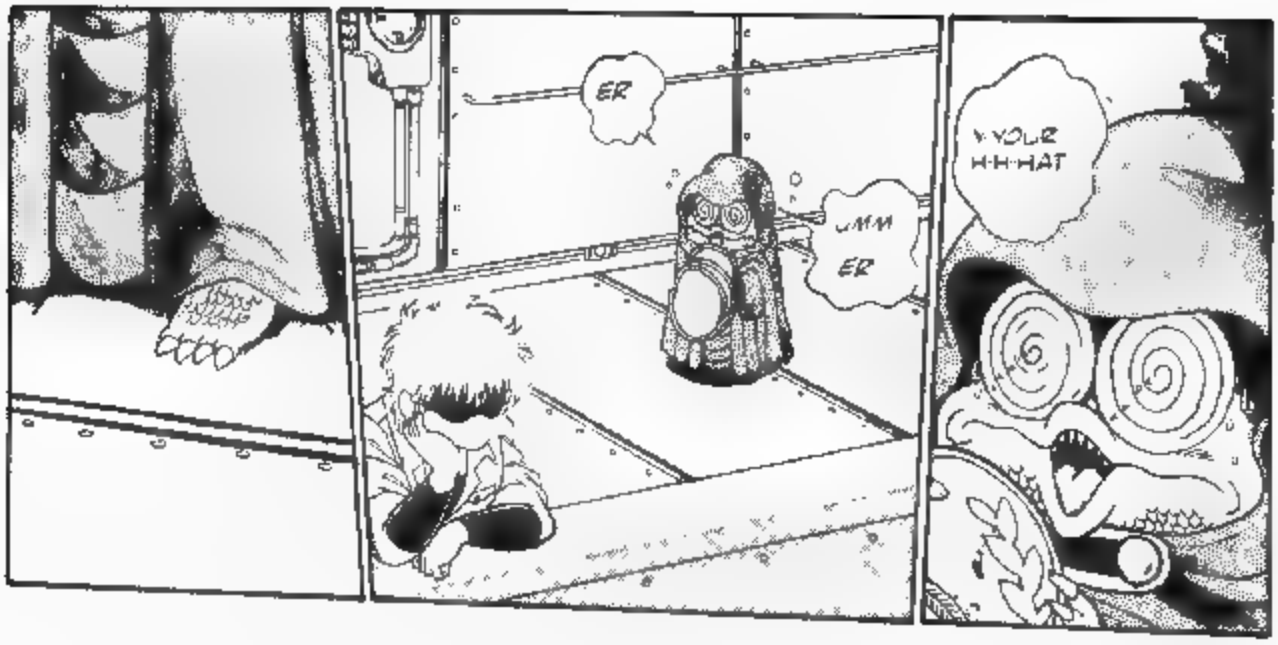
SHE TOOK ON THE PR NCESS !

AND I WAS AN EVEN MATCH !

UH OH.


THIS WAS YOUR IDEA! SO YOU GIVE IT BACK TO HER!
NO! WAIT! HELLLP!!
F F FORGET T' I'M SCARED TO DEATH!!
IDIOT! A WARRIOR OF THE NUBA TR BE KNOWS NO FEAR!
SO GO NOW AND DIE WITH HONOR! N CE KNOWING YOU!
YOU HEARTLESS SWINE!


EEP!
COME ON! HURRY UP AND GET IT OVER WITH!


ER
UMM
ER
YOUR
H-H-HAT

WHY'S HE JUST STANDING THERE LIKE AN IDIOT ?
JUST GIVE T BACK TO HER DUMMY !
HEY ! HE'S COMING BACK !
WHY DID YOU COME BACK ?!
WHY DIDN'T YOU GIVE T TO HER YOU FOOL ?!
I
I
I
?
I'M IN LOVE !!

A PRINCESS !?!
SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? YOU GOT SOME PROBLEM WITH THAT.!
OH NO! NOT AT ALL! HA HA IT'S JUST THAT SORRY!
HMPH!
THERE'VE BEEN RUMORS. INTELLIGENCE REPORTS BUT WE NEVER IMAGINED THAT YOU WERE REALLY.

AHEM! WELL THAT'S NEITHER HERE NOR THERE. ER YOUR MAJESTY! WE ARE, OF COURSE, DEEPLY HONORED THAT YOU HAVE GRACIOUSLY DEIGNED TO MEET WITH US N PERSON
YOU MUST F ND THIS SHIPBOARD CONFERENCE CHAM BER CROWDED AND UNCOMFORTABLE BUT DUE TO SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS WE'RE QUITE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND
NOW WE ARE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND FROM YOUR MESSAGES, THAT THE TWO OF YOU ARE ENGAGED?
WELLLL NOT EXACTLY. YOU SEE--
AW, C'MON! YOU CAN ADMIT IT! TETSUYA TOOK ONE LOOK AT ME AND FELL HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE!
GEEZ KAHM! CUT IT OUT!
WELL WELL! THESE ARE MOST FELIC TOUS TIDINGS INDEED! WE ARE OVERJOYED AT YOUR GOOD FORTUNE!

OH YEAH ?

NATURALLY' AN IMPORTANT BOND HAS BEEN FORGED BETWEEN EARTH AND THE *SANTOVASKU EMPIRE*.

WE WELCOME YOU TWO YOUNG EMISSARIES OF PEACE WITH JOY AND PLEASURE !

AND OF COURSE WE NOW LOOK FORWARD TO A SPEEDY CONCLUSION TO THE HOSTILITIES!

WELL GEE ER ACTUALLY WE RE.

REBELS ?!?

KAHM AND I DECIDED TO PROTECT THE EARTH. WE JOINED WITH OUR TWO COMPANIONS HERE TO FORM A REBEL ARMY

WE'VE COME HERE TO GIVE THE PEOPLE OF EARTH AS MUCH WARNING AS POSSIBLE

SO THAT'S IT

IF WE JOIN FORCES WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE !

HMM. THIS CHANGES MATTERS CONSIDERABLY.

WE WERE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WERE OFFICIAL EMISSARIES FROM THE EMPIRE

WHAT DO YOU THINK COMMANDER? DOES A SMALL REBEL UNIT HAVE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE WITH US DIRECTLY?

OUT OF THE QUESTION!

I DON'T QUITE FOLLOW ALL THIS TALK OF REBELLION. BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR-- THIS WAR WAS STARTED BY YOUR SIDE!

NOW YOU COME CRAWLING TO US AND SAY YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MINDS. YOU WANT TO JOIN FORCES WITH US. RIDICULOUS!

IF YOU REALLY MEAN TO FIGHT ON OUR SIDE, THEN ***SURRENDER, NOW!*** PUT YOUR FORCES UNDER OUR COMMAND!

JUST HOLD ON A SECOND! WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO ***SURRENDER***--!

THOSE ARE OUR TERMS DISARM YOURSELVES PROMPTLY

AND YOU WILL BE WELCOMED AS COMRADES TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME IN THIS MANNER!?!

SQUEEZE
GLRK!
J JUST WHAT DO YOU TH NK YOU'RE DO NG ?!
HAVE YOU COME HERE TO SEEK PEACE OR TO START ANOTHER WAR?!
SO WHO STARTED IT BY NSULTING ME HUH? WHO?!
OH GEEZ
OH MAN
MY GOD! IT'S ALL OVER ALREADY!
AND WE HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED THE TALKS!

NEAR!

THAT'S ENOUGH OF THIS CRAP!
YOU SHUT UP!
GEOBALOI!
N-NOW JUST CALM DOWN! DON'T-

GURK!
LISTEN UP GRANDPA! LOOKS LIKE YOU D OTS DON T UNDERSTAND NOTHIN'!
WH-WHAT ?
THIS A NT THE TIME TO BE TALKIN ABOUT "AUTHORITY" AND SUCH BULLSHIT S IT ?
DON T YOU FIGURE YOU OUGHTA BE PULLIN TOGETHER ALL THE MIL TARY FORCES YOU CAN TO GET READY FOR THE B IG OFFENSIVE ?
BUT WHAT DO YOU JERKS DO NSTEAD ? YOU WANT US REBELS TO "SURRENDER" ?
WELL, SCREW YOU, ASSHOLE !
KZIK
PLEASE CALM DOWN, COMMANDER BROOKS !!

I'M IN LOVE!
I'M IN LOVE I'M IN LOVE!
I'M IN LOOOVE!!
HAVE YOU GONE MAD?!
I WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY. AND NOW THIS!?
YOU MORON!!
OBVIOUSLY, YOU'RE STILL NOT OVER THE ANDROMEDA FLU!
YOU'RE WRONG!
THIS IS LOVE! MY FIRST TRUE LOVE!
DOUBLE DIOT!! SHE'S AN ALIEN!
OH YEAH? SO WHAT?! THAT DIDN'T STOP THE PRINCESS AND MR TETSUYA!
YEAH, WELL AT LEAST THEY LOOK OKAY TOGETHER!
NONSENSE! WHAT MATTER APPEARANCES, SO LONG AS OUR HEARTS ARE INTERTWINED IN LOVE!
NO, NO. MY FRIENDS YOU MUST HEAR MY TALE!

"THAT 'IRON-WILLED WOMAN, THAT ARCHETYPE OF FEMININE STRENGTH. WAS **CRYING**.. GREAT TEARS STREAMED GENTLY DOWN HER CHEEKS

"HER GENTLE NATURE, LIKE THAT OF A CHILD, H DDEN UNTIL NOW BEHIND A VEIL OF RAGE BORROWED THE SHAPE OF TEARS TO APPEAR BEFORE ME

AAAA! YOUR TEARS HAVE PIERCED MY HEART!

A BURNING FEVER TAKES SHAPE WITHIN ME!

.....

.....

NOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND BOSS?! CAN'T YOU FEEL THE RAGING HEAT OF MY LOVE?!

ARE YOU **COMPLETELY** DERANGED ?!?!

?!

YOU'VE BEEN READING THOSE ROMANCE NOVELS TOO MUCH! THEY'VE FINALLY TURNED YOUR BRAINS TO **GOO!**

T E H M UP AND TOSS H M OVERBOARD!

THAT OUGHT TO WAKE H M UP

WHO'S THERE ?!

SHE'S SPOTTED US! BEAT IT!

WHOOSHH

HUH ?

WHA- ?

OH T'S YOU GUYS KAHM'S LITTLE SERVANTS, EIGHT ?

.....

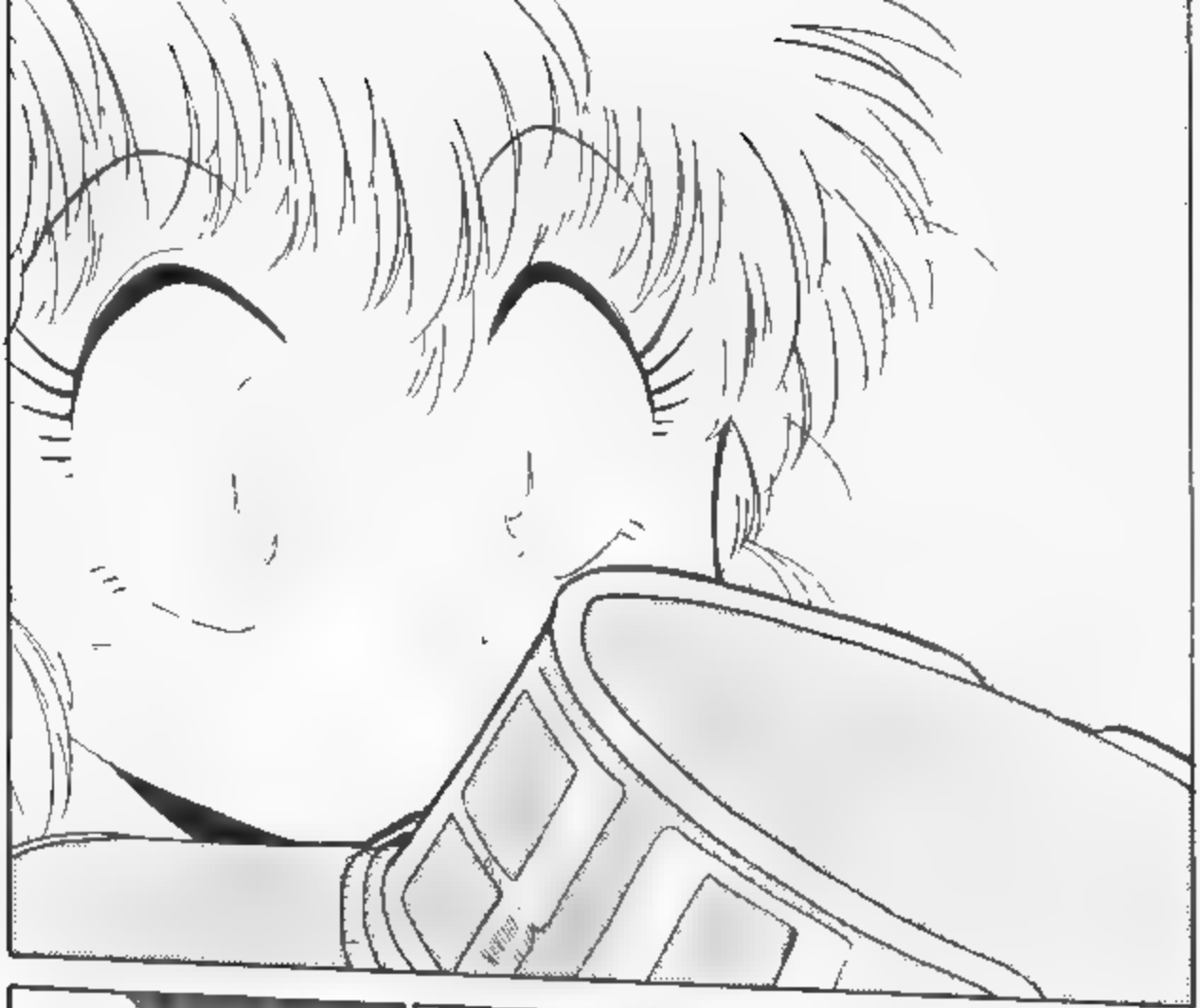
ER EXCUSE ME BUT--

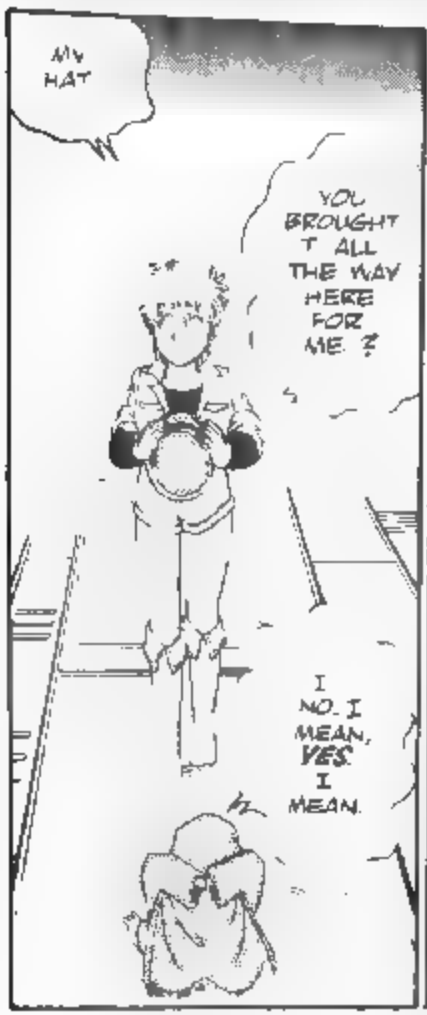
WHAAAT ?!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU GUYS COULD SPEAK ANY EARTH LANGUAGES.

HUH ! WEIRD.

H H HERE




MY HAT
YOU BROUGHT T ALL THE WAY HERE FOR ME ?
I NO. I MEAN, YES I MEAN.

WHY WHY THANK YOU !

OH GEE GOSH. YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME I MEAN ME ME!

ALL RIGHT! I'D SURE MISS THIS BABY IF I LOST IT!

COMMANDER IN CHIEF TOGO

WELL IF IT ISN'T TETSUYA WAKATSUKI

GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE LOOKING WELL MY BOY

HUH?

EYOW!!!

YOU'RE GENERAL TOGO!
HEAD OF THE JAPAN SELF-DEFENSE FORCES!
I MET YOU AT THE DEFENSE AGENCY IN TOKYO, RIGHT? A COUPLE OF TIMES!
YOU KNOW HIM TETSUYA?
SURE DO FROM MY NEWSPAPER DAYS THEY CALLED HIM THE "HAWK OF THE JSDF"
AND IF POOR AKI WAS RIGHT ABOUT HIM HE WAS ALSO THE TOP MAN IN THE "SHADOW CABINET"
SO
YOU'RE THE REAL BOSS OF THIS BUNCH, ARE YOU? GREAT!
NOW I CAN QUIT WASTING MY TIME WITH THESE OLD LADIES!
WHDD
HUFF!
WELL DO ALL WE CAN TO COOPERATE WITH YOU
WHAT?
I SAID WE'D COOPERATE

GEN- GENERAL TOGO! THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! HOW DARE YOU !
THIS IS A MATTER FOR THE UNIFIED CHIEFS OF STAFF TO DEBATE N EXECUTIVE SESSION !
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO DECIDE THIS ON YOUR OWN
YOU HAVE VOTED ME COMMANDER OF THE UJCF. CORRECT? THE AUTHORITY IS MINE!
STILL
THIS IS TOO MUCH.
WELL MR KAKATSUK I'VE HAD MY SHARE OF TROUBLE WITH ONE OR TWO OF YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE PAST
BUT NOW WE FIGHT A COMMON ENEMY OUR POSITIONS ARE DIFFERENT BUT WE ARE NONETHELESS COMRADES N ARMS
HUH ?
AND MOREOVER FELLOW JAPANESE !

YEAH.
YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT! WE CAN WORK TOGETHER FOR SURE!
WELL THEN IF WE ARE TO FIGHT TOGETHER, WE MUST PLAN OUR JOINT TACTICS IN ADVANCE
WE MUST BOTH STUDY HOW OUR FORCES CAN BEST COOPERATE EFFECTIVELY IN BATTLE
YEAH RIGHT
IN THAT CASE SHALL WE SET A DATE FOR THE NEXT CONFERENCE?
I'LL USE THE TIME TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS ON OUR SIDE

SURE GLESS WE CAN WAIT A LITTLE WHILE FOR THAT

RIGHT ?

EXCUSE ME THERE IS ONE THING I'D LIKE TO ASK RIGHT NOW

YES ?

WHAT IS THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THE SANTOVASKU EMPIRE WITH REGARD TO THE HUMAN RACE?

EXTERMINATION !

EX EXTERMINATION ?!

gulp

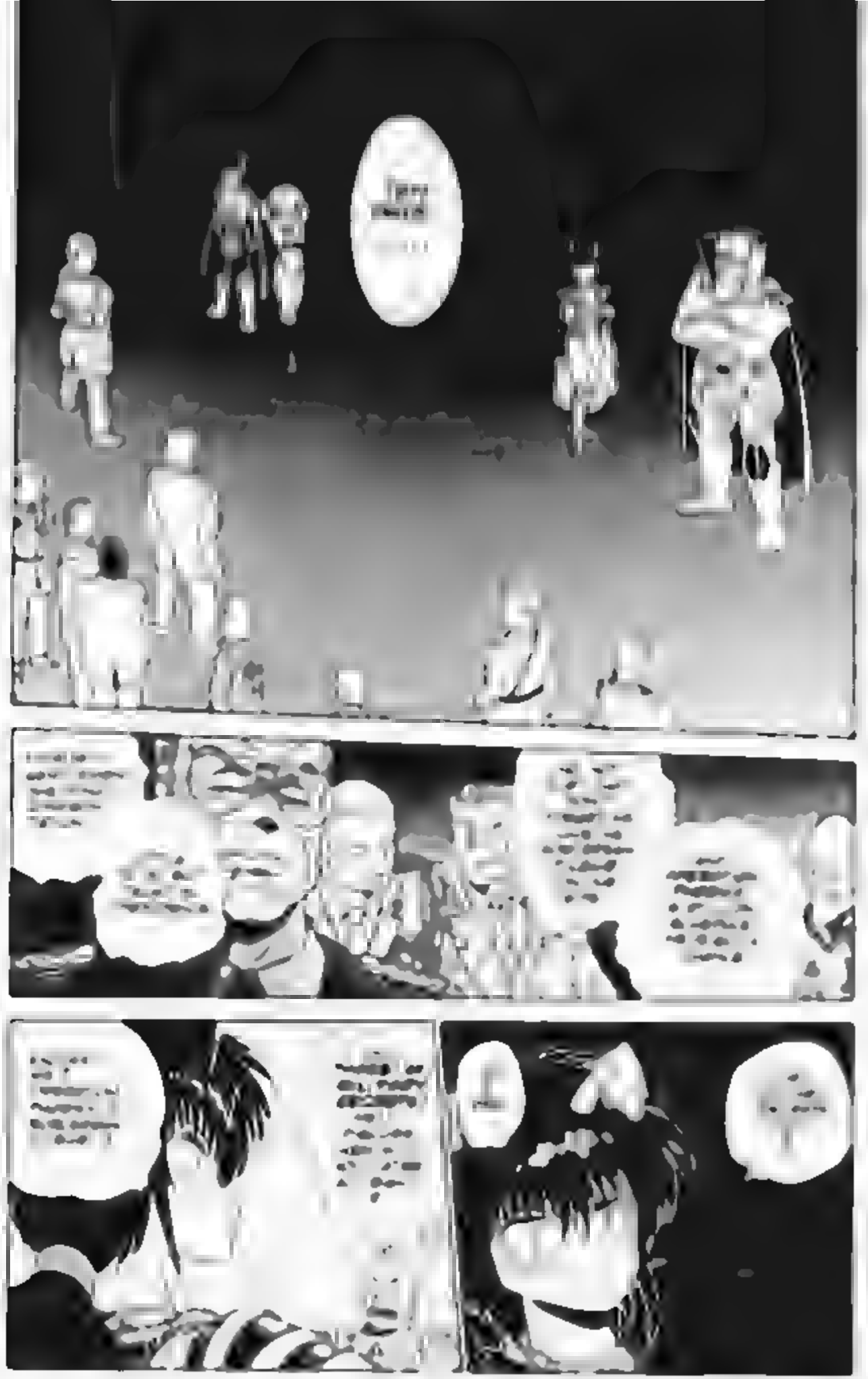
YOU SEE, YOU EARTHLINGS JUST AREN'T SUPPOSED TO EXIST

AT LEAST, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE EMPIRE

H-HOW CAN THEY--

THE EMPIRE HAS ALREADY LEARNED OF OUR REBELLION WE ESTIMATE IT WILL TAKE THEM TEN DAYS TO ASSEMBLE A MAIN BATTLE FLEET TO DESTROY US

DEBATE AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE GENTLEMEN BUT REMEMBER-- YOU DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF MUCH TIME



SO THAT'S HOW IT'S BEEN. HUH? I GUESS TETSUYA AND KAGAMI HAVE REALLY BEEN THROUGH SOME HARD TIMES
THEY MUST BE PRETTY SERIOUS THOSE TWO.
WERE YOU IN LOVE WITH TETSUYA, TOO, MISS RAISA?

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN BY *THAT*, YOU LITTLE FROGFACED **GNOME ?!!**

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A **JOKE!?** HUH? WAS THAT A **JOKE ?!?!**

WHERE'D YOU GET SUCH A STUPID IDEA?! DON'T SAY IT AGAIN OR I'LL GET *MAD!*

B-B-BUT YOU GOT ALL ANGRY AND ATTACKED PRINCESS KAHM

I'M JUST *WORRIED* ABOUT A FELLOW EARTHLING. THAT'S *ALL!*

THAT'S ALL ?

I MEAN LET'S GET *REAL*. HERE' WHAT *NORMAL* PERSON WOULD THINK OF MARRYING AN ALIEN?

HE'S *GOT* TO BE A BIT NUTS! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

SO THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HE MIGHT DO NEXT LEFT TO HIMSELF! GO. YEAH I WORRY ABOUT HIM--OF COURSE!

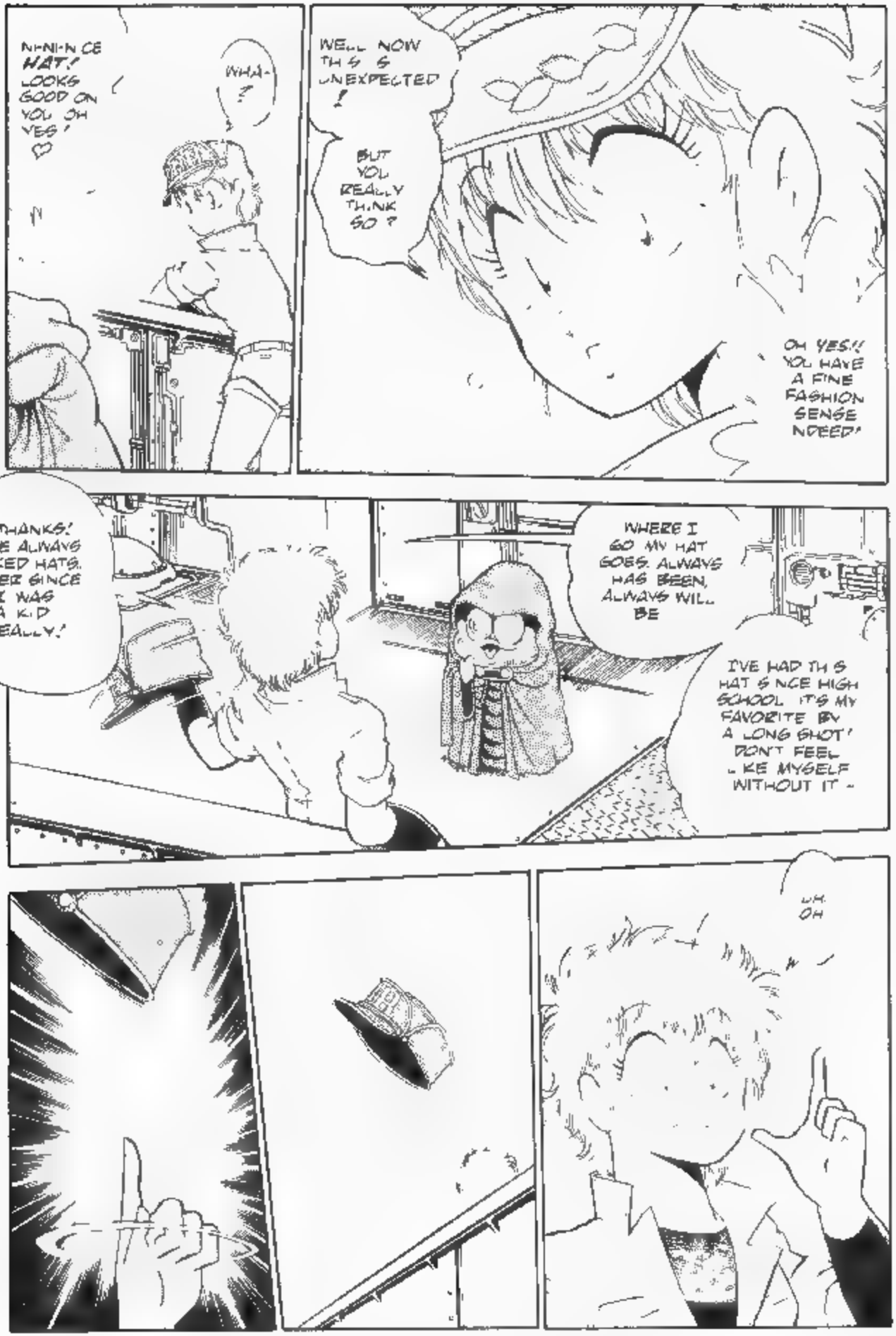
AND THAT'S *ALL* THERE IS TO IT!

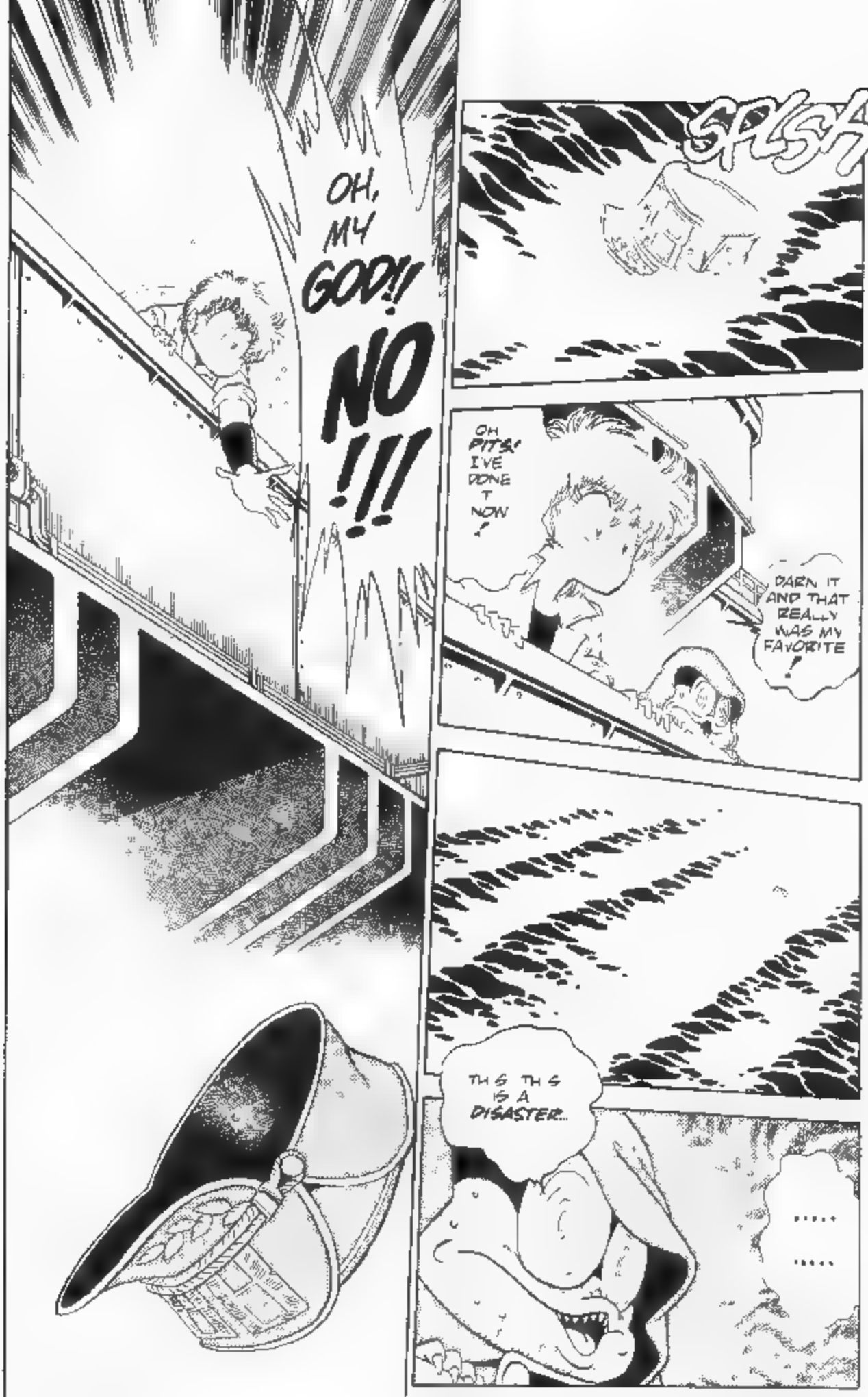
SHE'S AVAILABLE !

THIS IS YOUR *BIG CHANCE* MEGANE! QUICK! YOU'VE GOT TO MAKE CONVERSATION!

WHAT CAN I TALK ABOUT? *WHAT ?*

OH YEAH! RIGHT! SOMETHING CLOSE AT HAND!


NI-NI-N CE HAT! LOOKS GOOD ON YOU OH YES!
WHA-?
WELL NOW TH S S UNEXPECTED!
BUT YOU REALLY TH.NK SO?
OH YES!! YOU HAVE A FINE FASHION SENSE NDEED!
THANKS! I'VE ALWAYS L.KED HATS. EVER S.NCE I WAS A K.D REALLY.
WHERE I GO MY HAT GOES. ALWAYS HAS BEEN, ALWAYS WILL BE
I'VE HAD TH S HAT S NCE HIGH SCHOOL IT'S MY FAVORITE BY A LONG SHOT! DON'T FEEL L.KE MYSELF WITHOUT IT -
UH. OH


OH, MY GOD!!
NO!!!
SPLSH
OH PITS! I'VE DONE IT NOW!
DARN IT AND THAT REALLY WAS MY FAVORITE!
TH S TH S IS A DISASTER...
.....
.....

GONE FOREVER. HUH? WELL THOSE'RE THE BREAKS
NO! DON'T SAY THAT!
HUH?
LEAVE THIS TO ME!
LEAVE IT TO YOU?
HEY, WAIT! DON'T--
OH, NO!! TETSUYA! TETSUYAAAA!!!
WHOOSH
I TRIED TO STOP HIM!
HE WHAT?!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!!
MAN OVERBOARD! REVERSE SCREWS! RESCUE TEAM TO AFTER DECK!
PLEASE! YOU MUST SAVE HIM! HE'LL SINK LIKE A STONE!

GBLURB!
BLUBLUBLUBLUB
MEGANE!
MEGANE! SPEAK TO US!

ALL RIGHT! HE'S STILL ALIVE!

WE'D BETTER MOVE HIM TO THE SICKBAY

MEGANE! DO YOU RECOGNIZE ME? HOW MANY FINGERS AM I HOLDING UP? HEY!

M-MISS M GS R-RASA

WHO M-ME? YOU MEAN ME?

H HERE

WHY WHY DID YOU--

OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH, EVERYONE!

WE'LL TAKE HIM NOW!

.....

.....

SO HOW WAS IT ?
ANY SPECIAL IMPRESSIONS ?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW ?

THEY'VE DEC DED TO W THDRAW FOR TODAY
IT SEEMS LIKELY WE'LL BE N FAIRLY CONSTANT CONTACT FROM NOW ON

DID YOU WANT TO MEET THEM ? IT S NOT TOO LATE
N-NO. NOT NOW

IF I MET HIM NOW

I FEAR I WOULD LOSE EVERYTHING.

AND IF THAT HAPPENED MY WHOLE EXISTENCE UNDER GREAT LEADER NEO WOULD COME TO AN END

THEY DESCRIBED THEMSELVES AS A REBEL ARMY DID THEY NOT?

YES. AND IT SEEMS TO BE THE TRUTH.

OUR RECON SATELLITES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THERE WAS A MAJOR BATTLE IN LUNAR ORBIT A DAY AGO.

WE CAN PROBABLY EXPECT AN IMPERIAL BATTLE FLEET ANY DAY, AND YET THEY SHOW NO SIGNS OF FLEEING. NO. I THINK THEY'RE TELLING THE TRUTH

I DON'T SEE HOW IT CAN HURT TO HAVE THEM ON OUR SIDE

THAT IS *YOUR* OPINION!

MY LORD NEO WILL *NEVER* PERMIT IT!

I DO WHAT IS RIGHT FOR EARTH

I SIMPLY CANNOT UNDERSTAND YOU

ARE YOU NOT A SERVANT OF GREAT LEADER NEO.?

YES I AM NOTHING MORE THAN A COG IN THE VAST MACHINERY OF LORD NEO'S REVENGE.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?

NOTHING MORE THAN ANOTHER COG, OF COURSE OR PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY A WEAPON

HOW DARE YOU!

I HAVE SERVED LORD NEO FOR 30 YEARS...

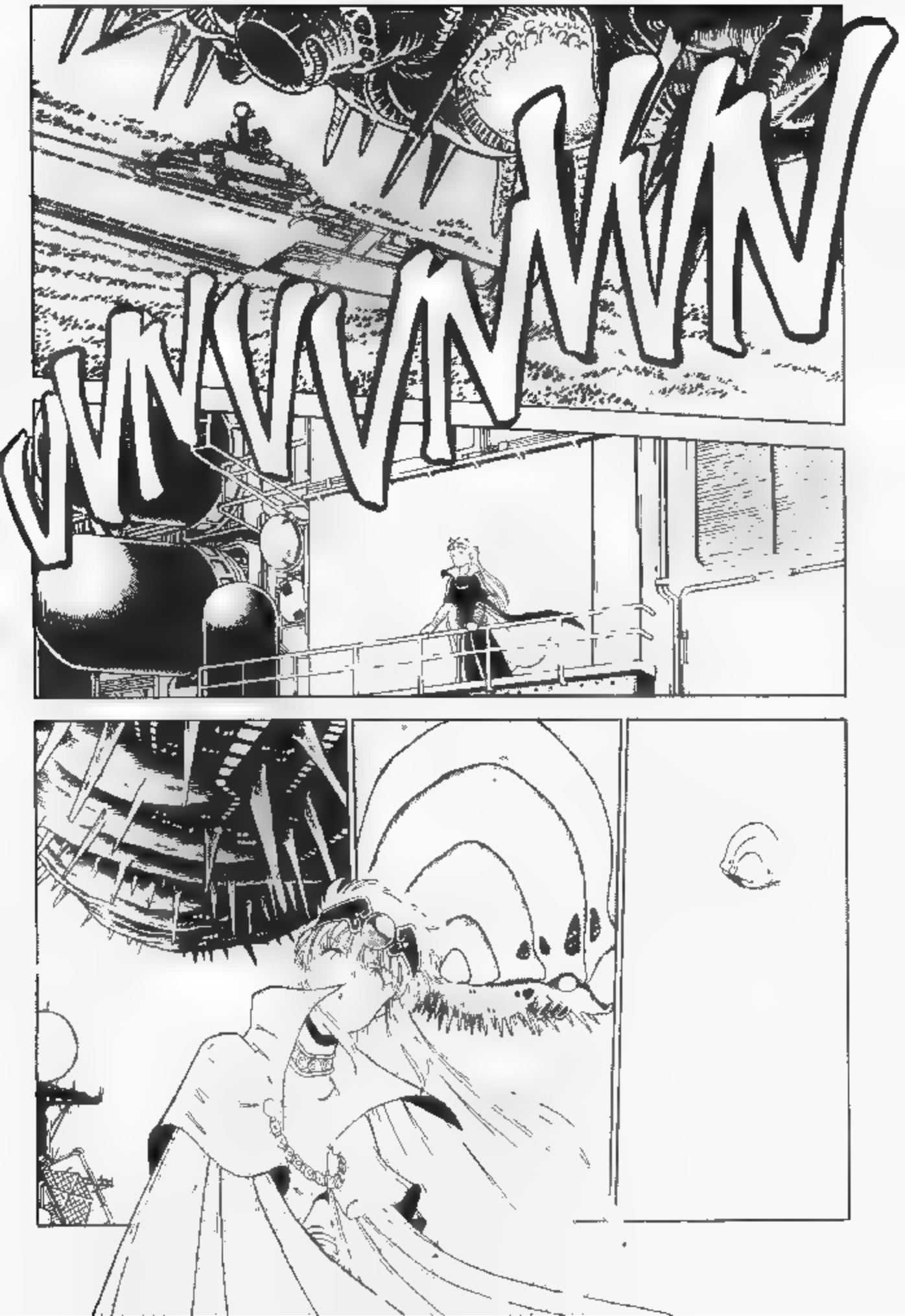
I HAVE SPUN AROUND AND AROUND ON MY AXLE JUST AS I WAS TOLD BUT SOMETIMES, EVEN A COG WANTS TO SPIN IN IT'S OWN DIRECTION

THIS COMING WAR WITH THE EMPIRE WILL BE MORE SAVAGE THAN ANYTHING WE HAVE EVER KNOWN

INSTEAD OF BEING A GOOD LITTLE COG TO THE VERY END

...WHY NOT JOIN THE HUMAN RACE?

TO PRINCESS KAHM THE ROYAL PARTY AND THE REBEL ARMY--
GODSPEED!



SO THEY'VE GONE

I THOUGHT IT WOULD NEVER END

COMMANDER TOGO! THAT PROMISE YOU MADE - CAN YOU REALLY DO SUCH A THING?

IT DIRECTLY DEFIES GREAT LEADER NEO'S DOCTRINE

I DON'T CARE

THE EARTH BELONGS TO US!

WELL. THAT SEEMS TO HAVE COME OFF OKAY KAHM

YEAH NOT BAD AT ALL

I STILL DON'T THINK THEY REALLY TRUST US NOT COMPLETELY

BUT AT LEAST THEY UNDERSTAND THAT WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE IMPERIAL ARMY

AND NOW I CAN FIGHT WITHOUT ANY REGRETS!

IF THE EARTH'S BEHIND US, I CAN REALLY KICK OUT ALL THE JAMS AND *FIGHT!* WE CAN'T LOSE!!

UH-HUH!

I COULDN'T HAVE HANDLED IT IF I'D HAD TO FIGHT MY OWN PEOPLE

HUH. ONCE THAT BUNCH LEARNED THEIR PLACE, THEY GOT DOWNRIGHT *REASONABLE*

I WONDER I WONDER

WHAT D'YOU MEAN BY THAT? SOMETHIN' BOTHERIN' YOU?

THAT TOGO GUY. I DON'T TRUST HIM. HE'S GOT SOMETHING

MAN I'M STARVING! WHAT'S FOR DINNER KAHM'T
THOSE DAMN CHEAPSKATE RUSSIANS DIDN'T EVEN FEED US!
HERE COMES ANOTHER! THAT MAKES SEVEN! AND IT'S A BIG ONE TOO!
KANG KANG
HO HO! NO MENU PLANN NG PROBLEMS TONIGHT!
NOM!

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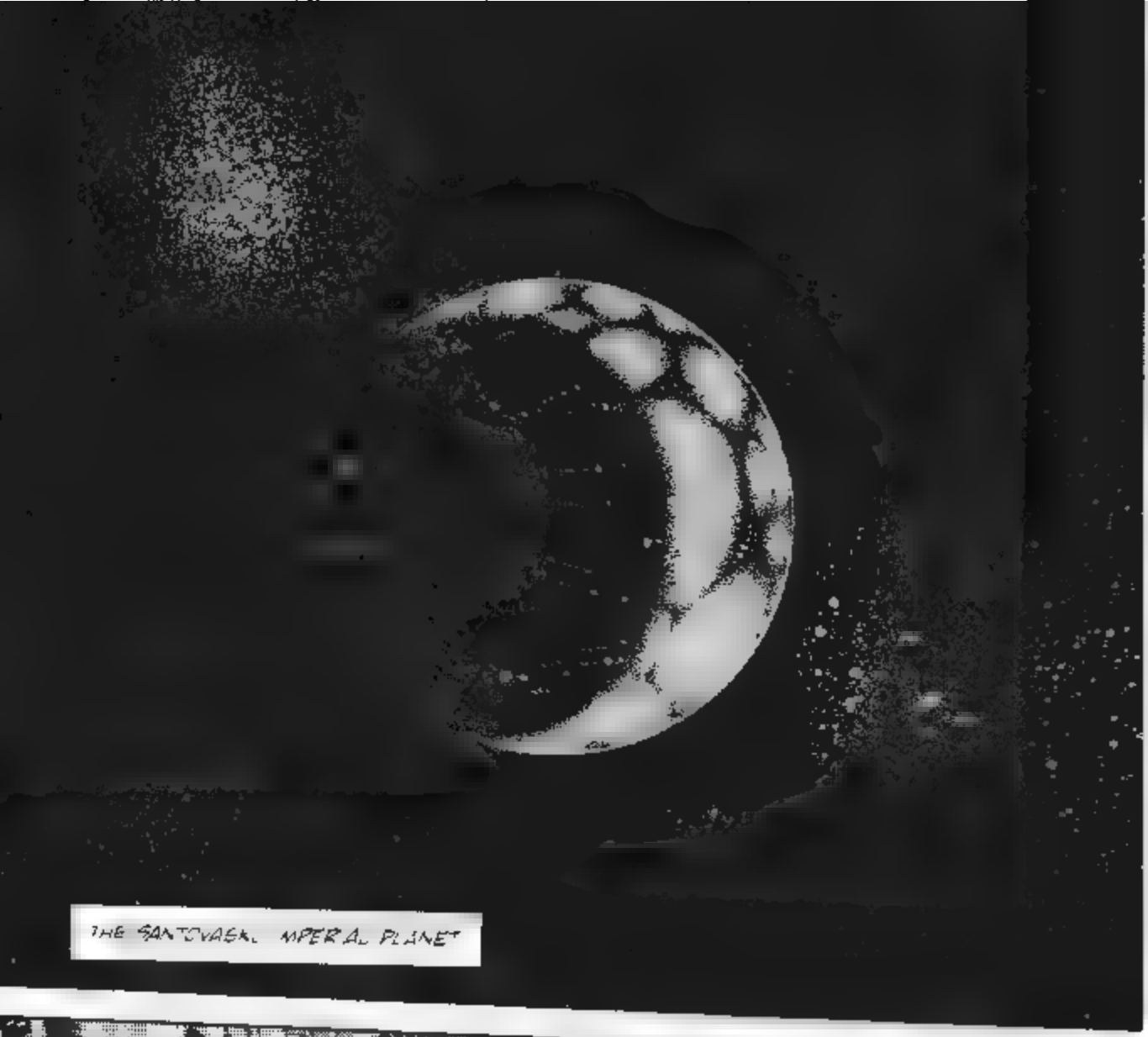
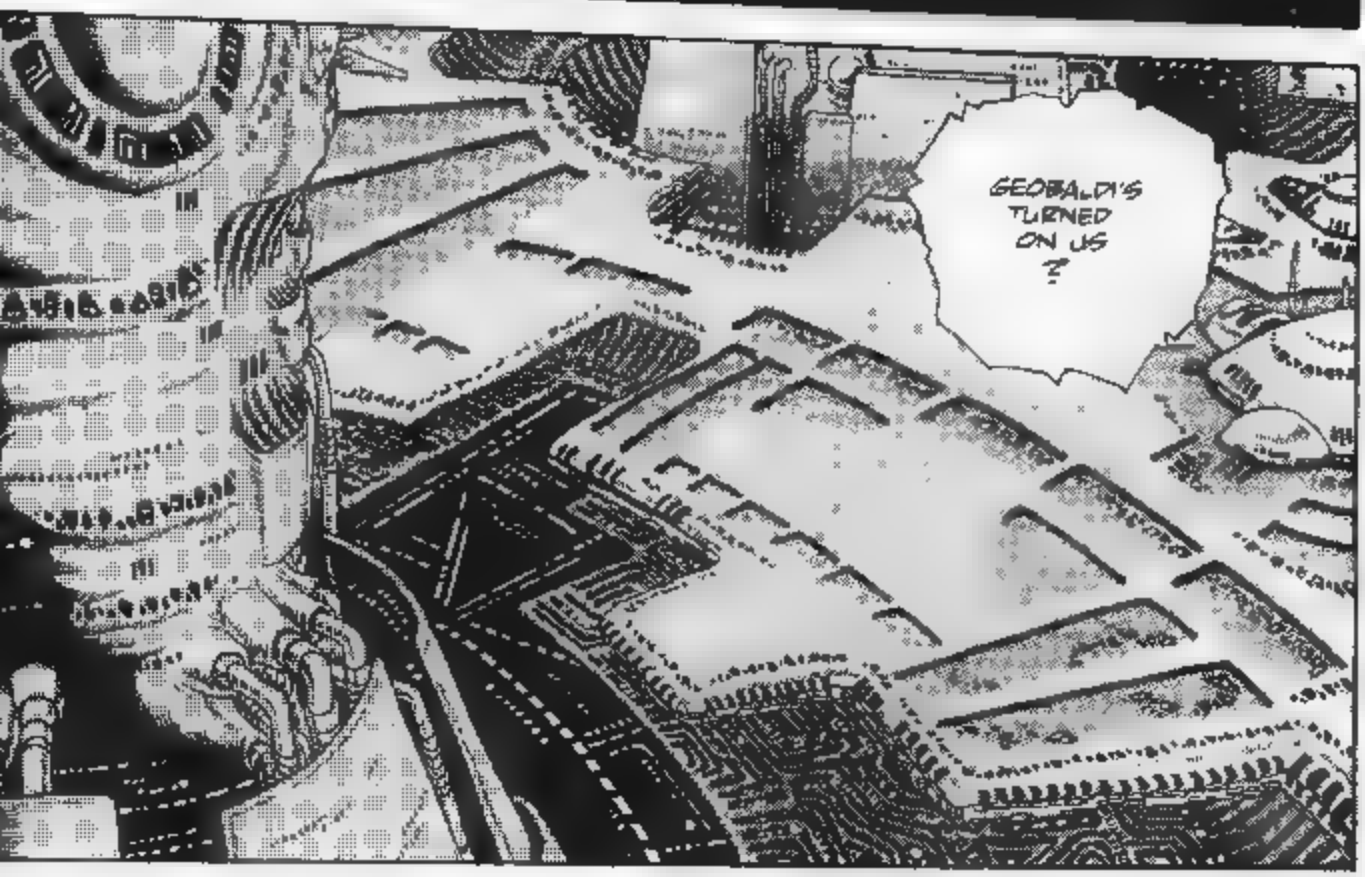

THE SANTOVASKI IMPERIAL PLANET


GEOBALDI'S TURNED ON US ?

BLAST IT! I TOLD THEM NOT TO STIR UP THINGS WITH THOSE DAMNED COLONIALS!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, TO HAVE THE PRINCESS JOIN THEM AND OPENLY DECLARE REBELLION AGAINST THE EMPIRE! IS THERE NO CONTROLLING THE CHILD?!
IT WOULD SEEM NOT, GENERAL GERULH! THIS COMPLICATES MATTERS CONSIDERABLY.
IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME TO REESTABLISH CONTROL.

TIME IS A LUXURY THAT WE DO NOT HAVE, LORD BERUFA IT'S HARD ENOUGH KEEPING THE OTHER DIVISIONS IN LINE AS IT IS!
IT'S TIME TO RETHINK OUR ENTIRE POLICY ON ATTACKING THE SACRED PLANET
WE SHOULD SEND A PUNISHMENT FLEET-- HIT THEM HARD, AND HIT THEM NOW!

AND WHERE HAS THE EMPEROR BEEN IN THIS AFFAIR EH?
THIS WHOLE DAMNED SITUATION IS A BLOT ON THE HONOR OF THE EMPIRE!

WATCH YOUR TONGUE, GERULH!
NOTHING PAINS OUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS MORE THAN THE PRINCESS KAHM'S OUTRAGEOUS BEHAVIOR.
REGARDLESS, WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THINGS HANGING FIRE! IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING
THIS IS TRUE
PERSONALLY I DOUBT THE EMPEROR WILL TOLERATE HER BEHAVIOR MUCH LONGER

BY THE WAY GENERAL--
I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP UNDER YOUR COMMAND HAS BEEN DEPLOYED IN THE BALVAS SYSTEM
WHAT OF IT?
THE POLITICAL SITUATION THERE IS NOW UNDER CONTROL YOUR POOR TROOPS MUST BE RATHER BORED
WELL GENERAL? IS THE EMPIRE'S FAMOUS 'INVINCIBLE ARMY' INTERESTED IN WINNING THE IMPERIAL CROSS?
BY THE GODS! YOU WANT ME TO COMMAND THE PUNITIVE EXPEDITION?!
EXACTLY SO, DEAR GENERAL
I EXPECT THE EMPEROR WILL HAND DOWN HIS DECREE AT THE IMPERIAL WAR COUNCIL TODAY TOMORROW AT THE LATEST
HIS HIGHNESS DOES NOT DESIRE FURTHER CONFUSION WE CAN ASSUME HE WILL SEEK A FINAL SOLUTION BY FORCE OF ARMS IN THE NEAR FUTURE

I SUGGEST YOU HAVE YOUR TROOPS READY TO MOVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE

NOT SO FAST LORD BERUFA !

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING SENDING AN ENTIRE ARMY GROUP TO CLEAN UP A SINGLE DIVISION OF COLONIALS !!

THREE REGULAR DIVISIONS WOULD BE MORE THAN ENOUGH !

MISJUDGE THE FIRE AND YOU BURN YOUR FINGERS, GENERAL.

YES, THE REBELS ARE FEW IN NUMBER. YET, THERE IS REASON ENOUGH FOR THE HIGH PRIESTS TO APPROACH THIS MISSION WITH CAUTION.

"IT'S NOT THAT I BELIEVE THIS FOOLISHNESS ABOUT THE RESURRECTION OF THE SORCERESS JILENE

"AND YET, THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THE SACRED PLANET."

IT'S THAT SUBCONCIOUS DREAD THAT MAKES OUR PRIESTS SO WARY-- THEY ARE DISTURBED BY MORE SUBTLE FEARS THAN GEOBALDI'S PATHETIC FORCES

AND YET, OUR EMPIRE REIGNS SUPREME OVER ALL THE GALAXY! WE CANNOT STAND BY FOREVER, WRINGING OUR HANDS OVER THE PROPHECIES OF OUR ANCESTORS

EVEN IF SOME FRAGMENT OF THE YOMA CLAN STILL LIVES TO PLOT REVENGE AGAINST US WE MUST SHOW THEM ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT THEY ARE POWERLESS BEFORE OUR BATTLE FLEETS

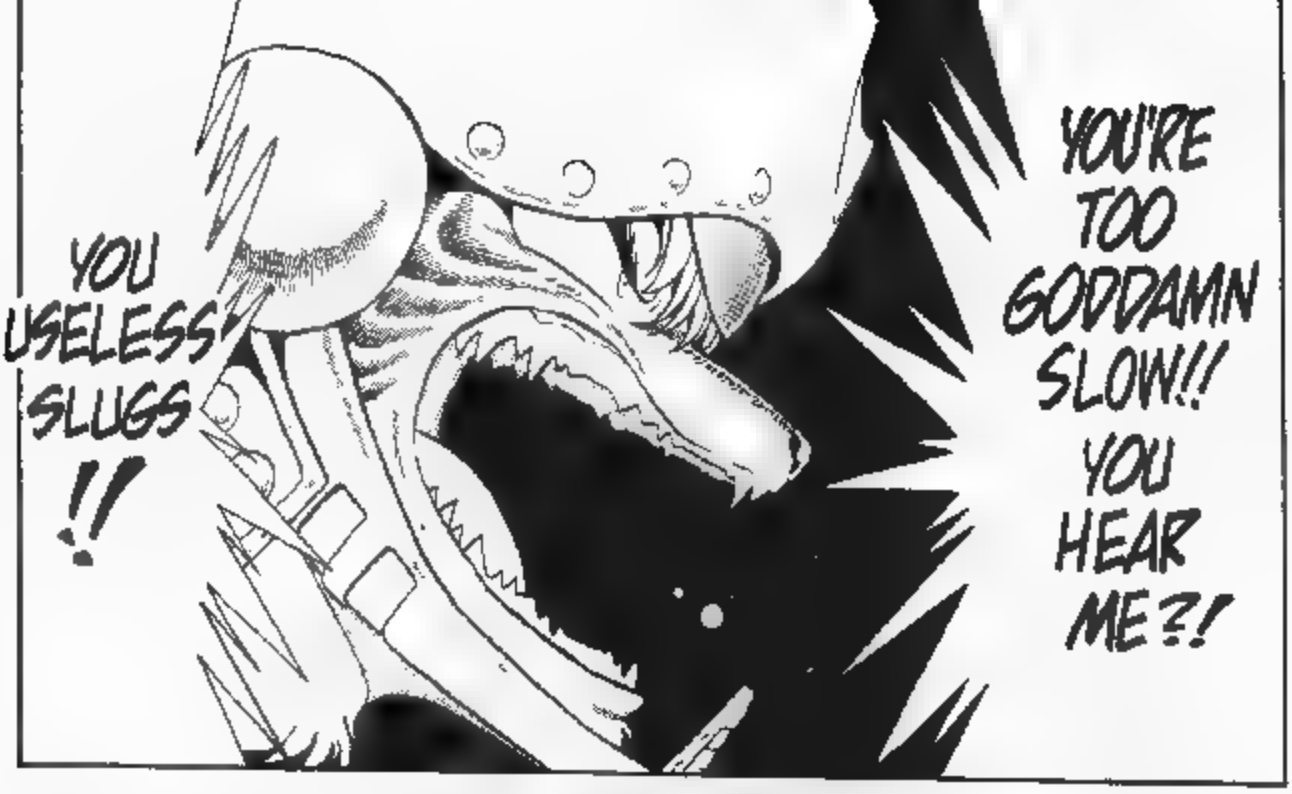
ARE YOU UP TO IT GENERAL ?
DOES THE HONORABLE LORD CHAMBERLAIN SUGGEST I'VE LOST MY EDGE?
BAIKIN !!
YES SIR!
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT GENERAL GERULH BERLFA
HE'LL BLAST AWAY THOSE PRIESTLY FEARS WITH ONE SALVO!
WE GO TO WAR !
SEND THE WORD OUT THROUGH GROUP CHANNELS TO EVERY DIVISION, TOP PRIORITY!!
ALL DIVISIONS ARE TO INITIATE A MOVEMENT IN FORCE WITH ALL AVAILABLE UNITS, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY! LEAVE ONLY MINIMUM GUARD UNITS AROUND SALVAS!
FLEET RENDEZVOUS ON THE FORTRESS SEVHASTO ORBITAL TRACK!

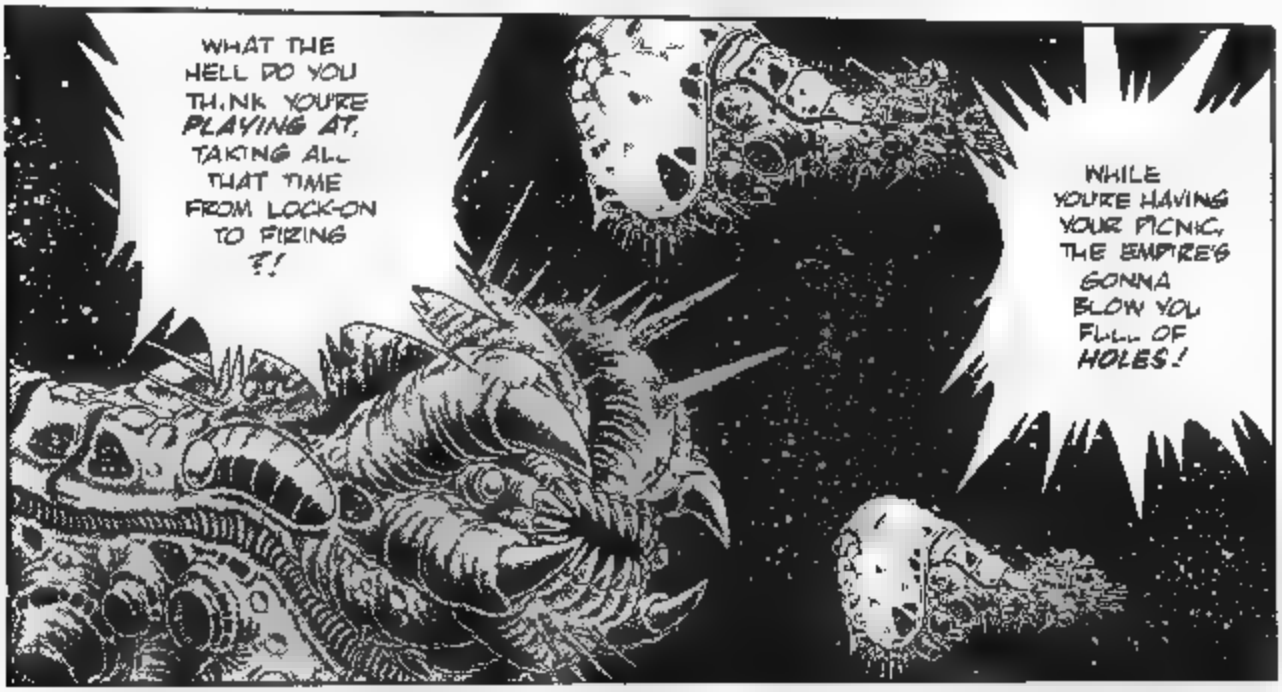
LOCKED ON TARGET... TRACKING.

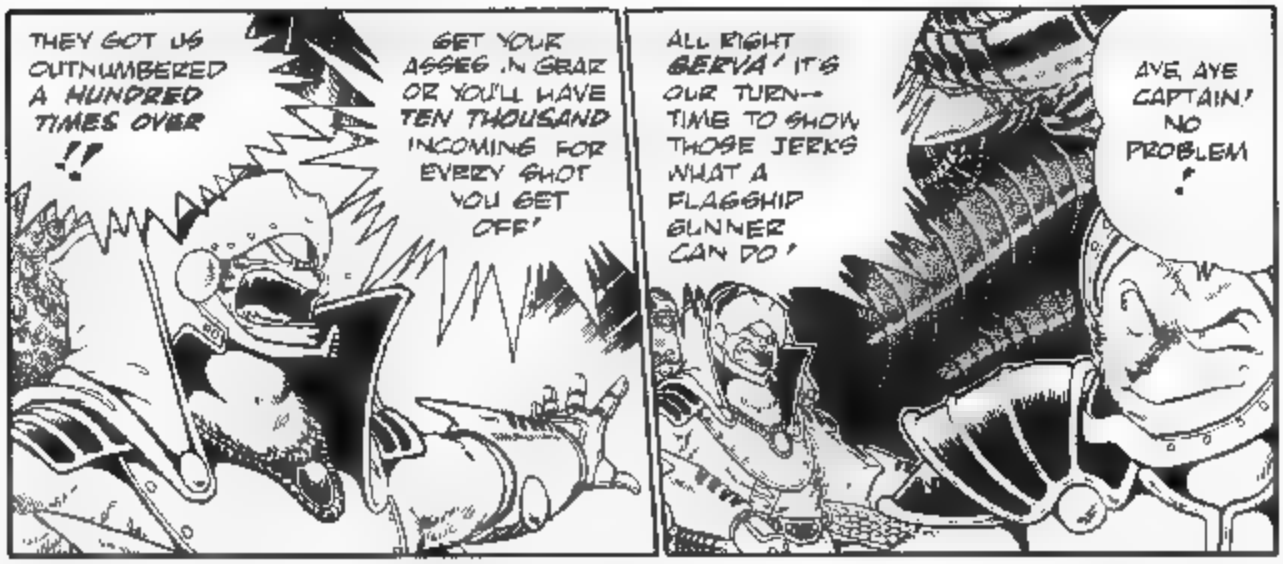
ENERGY FLUX CLOSING ON TARGET.

WHOOM

DIRECT HIT!!


YOU USELESS SLUGS !!
YOU'RE TOO GODDAMN SLOW!! YOU HEAR ME?!


WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE PLAYING AT, TAKING ALL THAT TIME FROM LOCK-ON TO FIRING ?!
WHILE YOU'RE HAVING YOUR PICNIC, THE EMPIRE'S GONNA BLOW YOU FULL OF HOLES!


THEY GOT US OUTNUMBERED A HUNDRED TIMES OVER !!
GET YOUR ASSES IN GEAR OR YOU'LL HAVE TEN THOUSAND INCOMING FOR EVERY SHOT YOU GET OFF!
ALL RIGHT GERVA! IT'S OUR TURN-- TIME TO SHOW THOSE JERKS WHAT A FLAGSHIP GUNNER CAN DO!
AYE, AYE CAPTAIN! NO PROBLEM!

MAINTAIN FORWARD VELOCITY, VECTOR ADJUSTMENT ZERO-THREE. DEVIATION PLUS-FOUR!
TARGET LOCK--
FIRE!!
KLOTT!
HUH?
GODDAMN BUNCHA MORONS STRANGLE THE LOT OF THEM. RRGGHH!!
HEY BOSS! YOUR LADY'S ON THE COM!
RIGHT!

WHAT'S UP BATTLA ?

LUNCH READY ?

GET YOUR ASS **DOWN HERE.** DAMN IT!

I TOLD YOU WE WERE HAVING A STRATEGY PLANNING SESSION AT NOON !

BUT YOU GO OFF SHOOTING YOUR LITTLE GUNS AS SOON AS YOU'VE STUFFED BREAKFAST DOWN YOUR THROAT!

THE BATTALION COMMANDERS ARE ALL HERE WAITING FOR YOU!

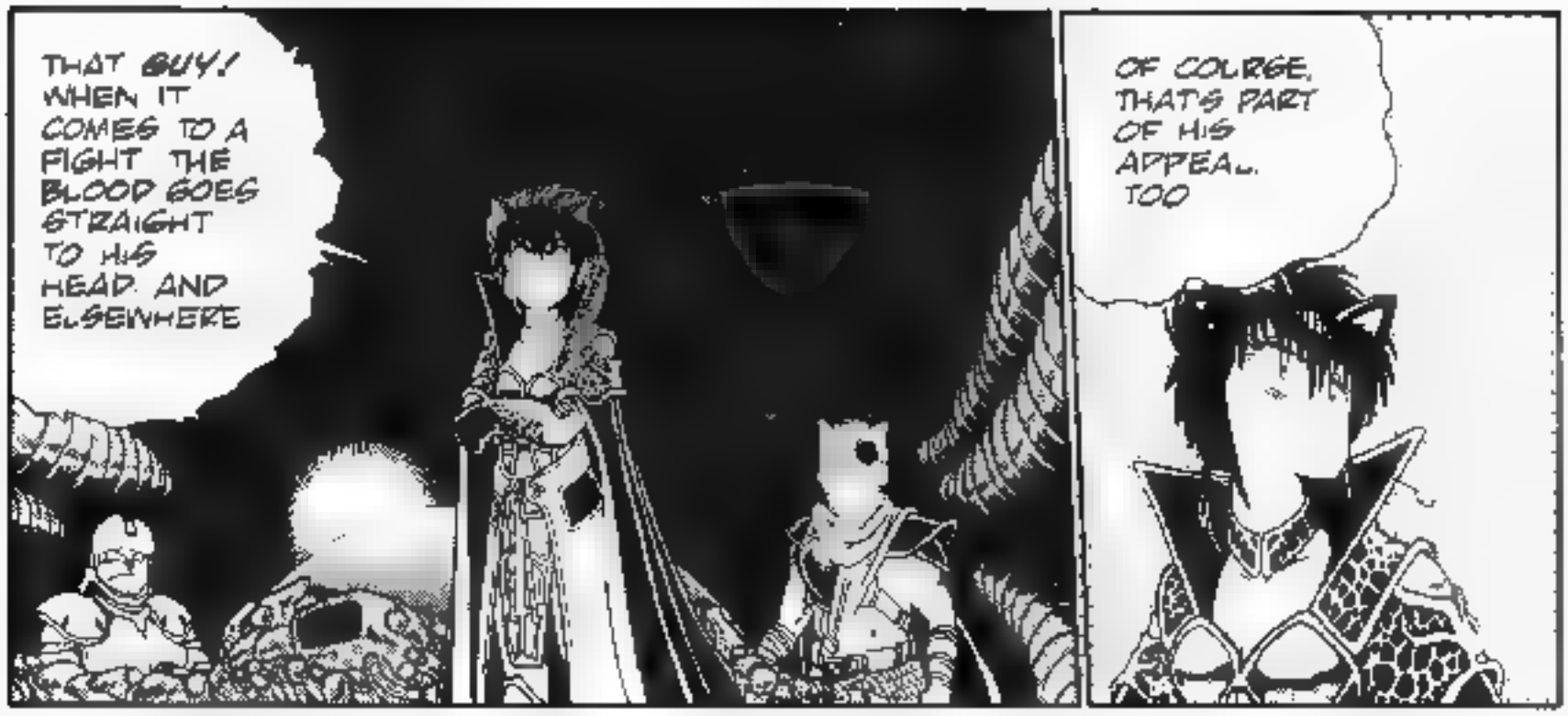
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE PLAYING AT ?!

CAN IT GIRL. YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT BORING CRAP!

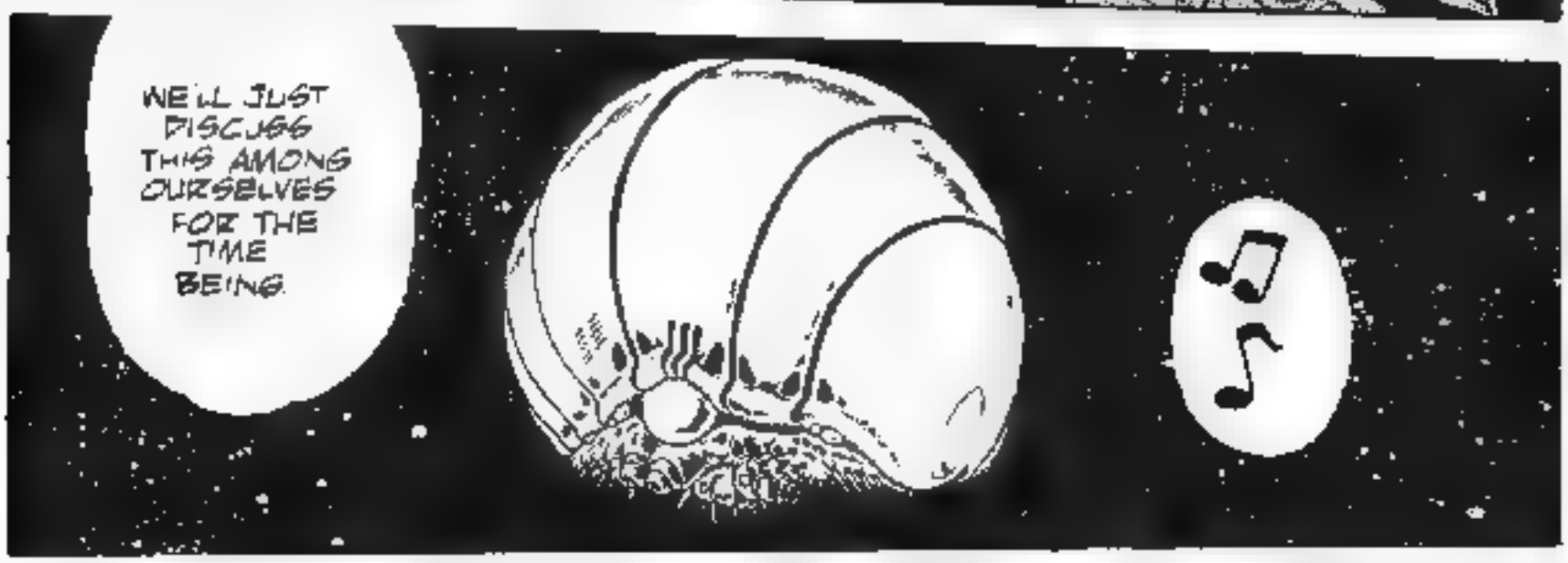
DO WHATEVER YOU PLEASE. !

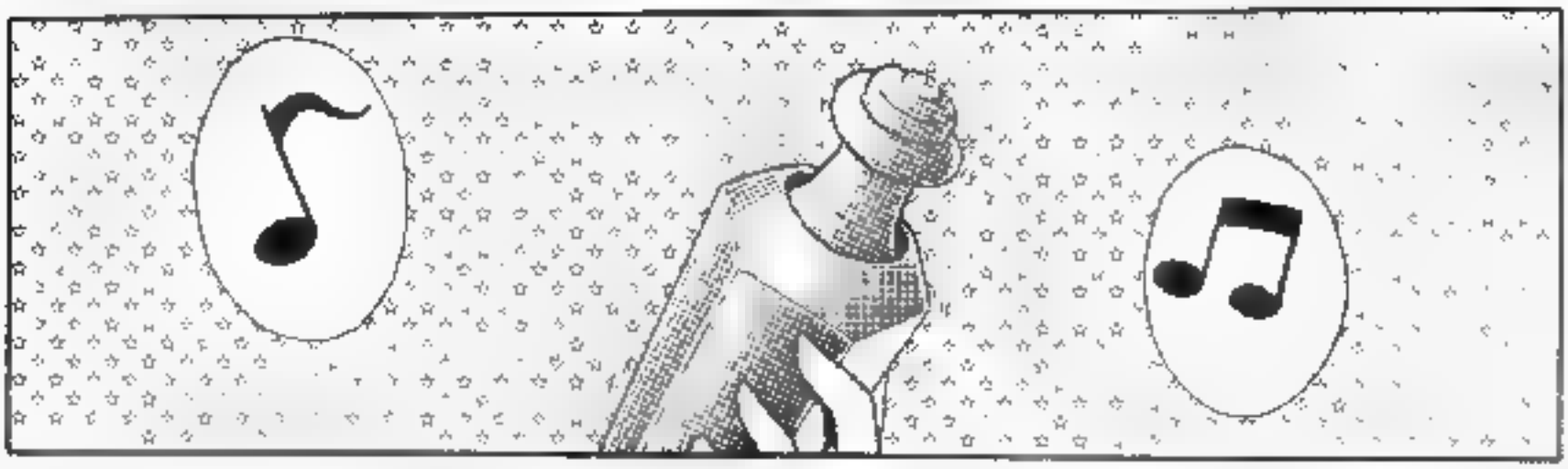
BY THE WAY BABE.. MAKE SURE BOTH YOU AND THE BED ARE WARMED UP TONIGHT.!

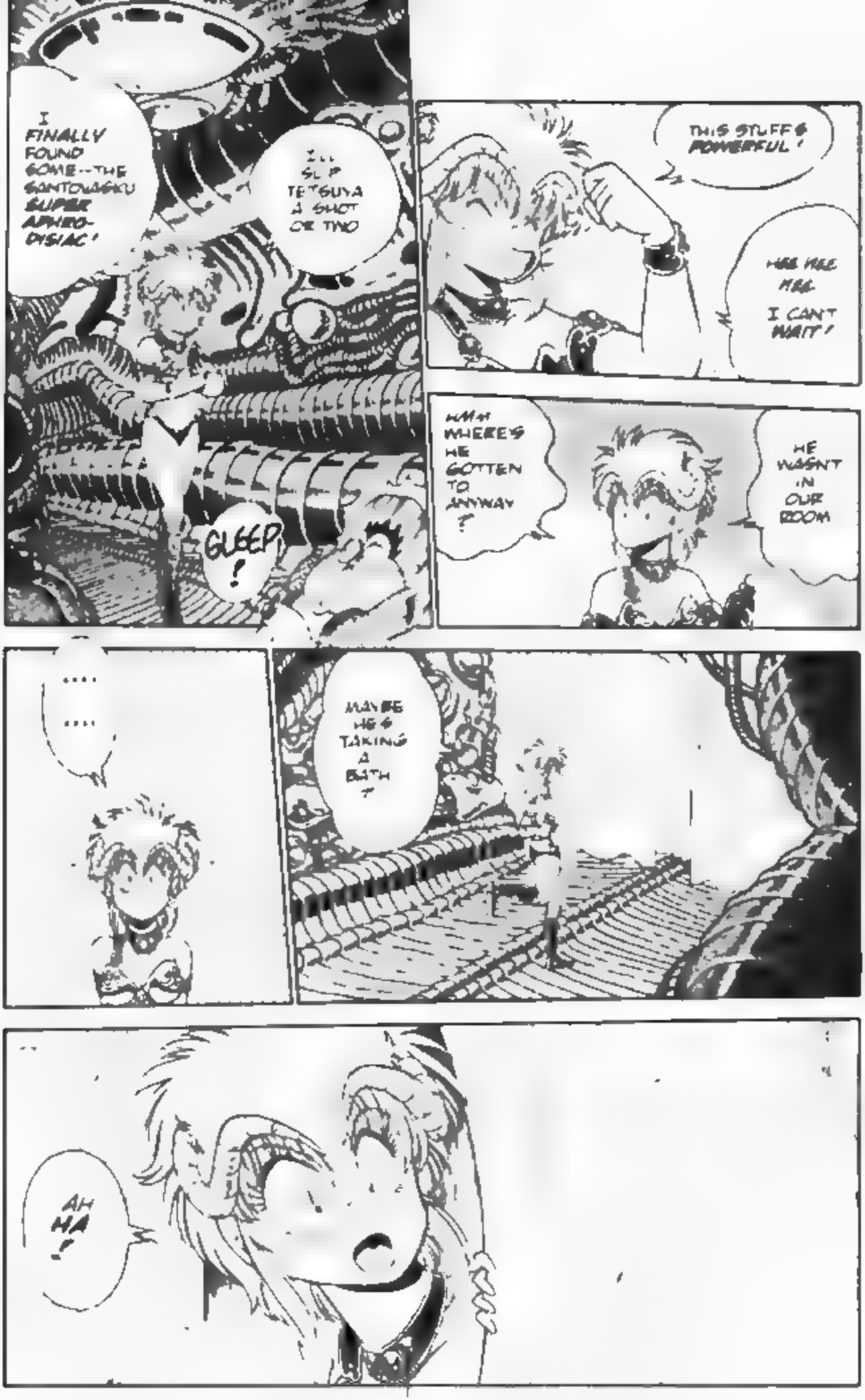
HOW DARE YOU- !!


THAT BUY! WHEN IT COMES TO A FIGHT THE BLOOD GOES STRAIGHT TO HIS HEAD AND ELSEWHERE
OF COURSE, THAT'S PART OF HIS APPEAL, TOO

WHERE'S THE PRINCESS KAHM ?
DAMNED IF I KNOW!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
THAT GIRL'S JUST AS BAD AS GEOBALDI-- LET'S NOT COMPLICATE THINGS FURTHER, HMM ?

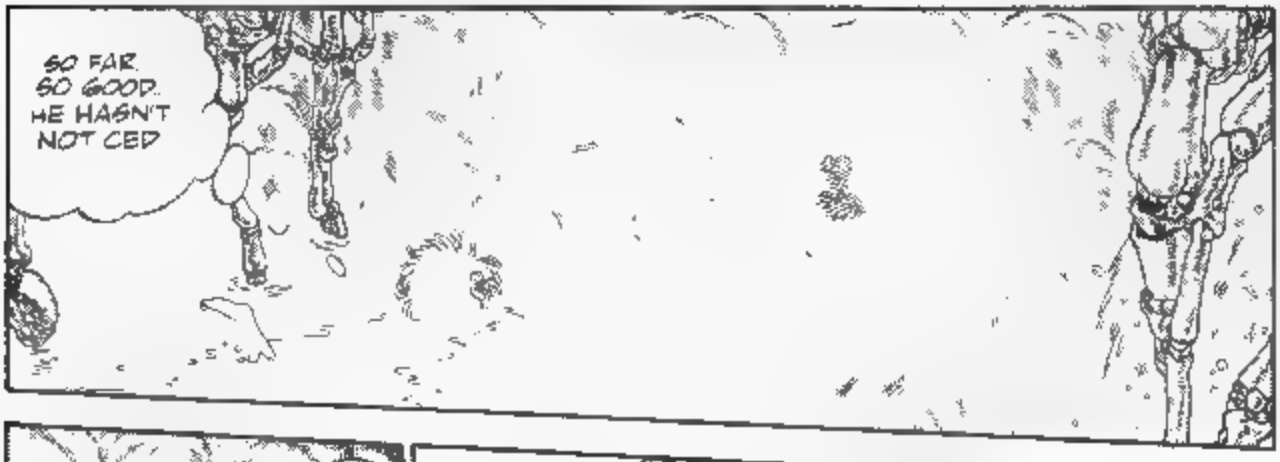

WE'LL JUST DISCUSS THIS AMONG OURSELVES FOR THE TIME BEING.



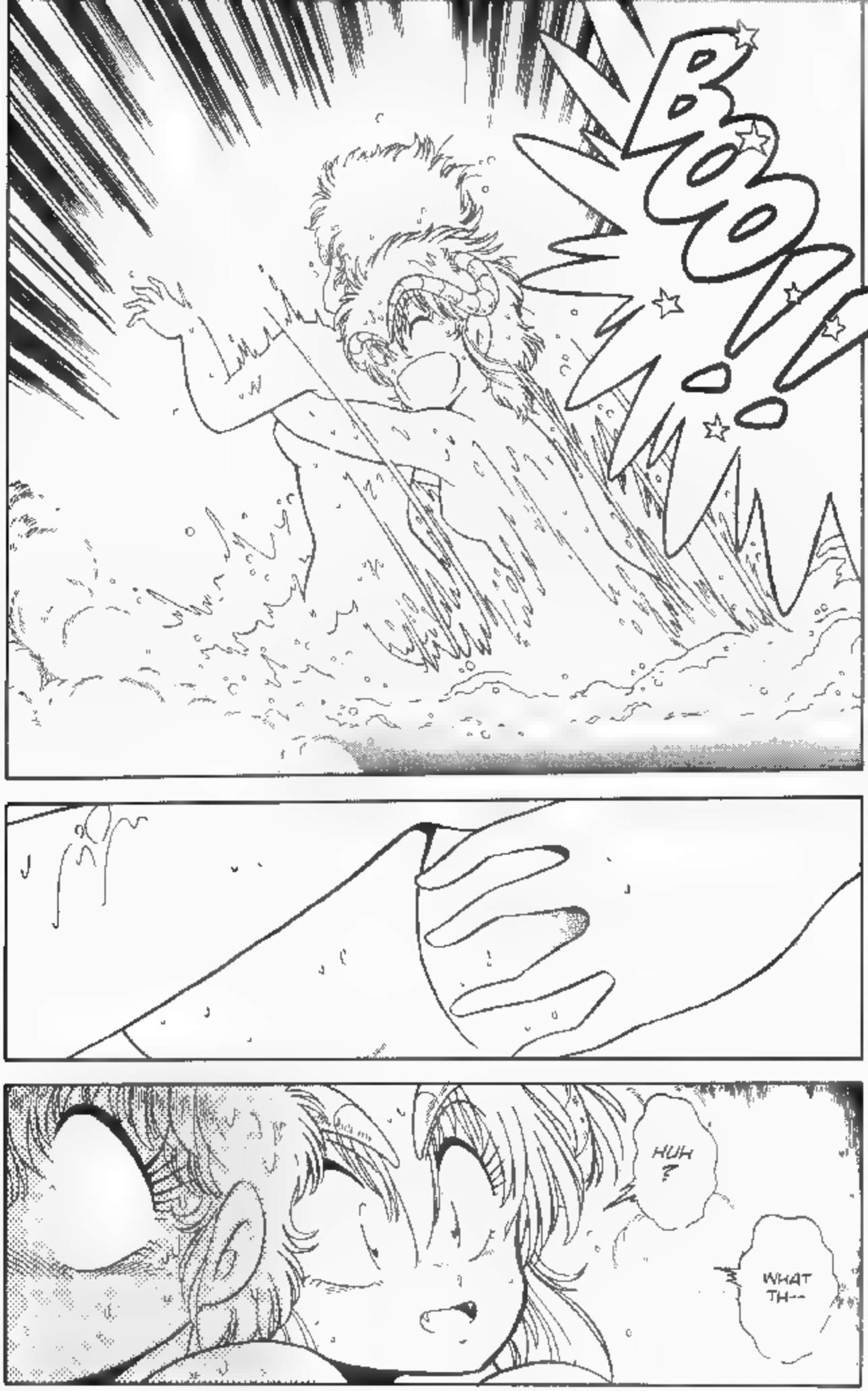

I FINALLY FOUND SOME--THE SANTOUAGKU SUPER APHRO-DISIAC!
I'LL SLIP TETSUYA A SHOT OR TWO
GLEEP!
THIS STUFF'S POWERFUL!
HEE HEE HEE I CAN'T WAIT!
HMM WHERE'S HE GOTTEN TO ANYWAY?
HE WASN'T IN OUR ROOM
....
....
MAYBE HE'S TAKING A BATH?
AH HA!

GEEZ.. IF YOU WANTED TO TAKE A BATH, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO!
WE COULD HAVE TAKEN ONE TOGETHER..
FOUND YOU. YOU LITTLE RASCAL!
EH HEH HEHooo!
SPLISH

I'LL GIVE HIM A NICE SURPRISE


SO FAR SO GOOD. HE HASN'T NOT CED

ALL RIGHT
PUSH
HERE WE GO!!


BOOM!!
HUH ?
WHAT TH--

SO THAT ONE WOULD GO HERE, AND THIS ONE THERE. NO WAIT
PLEASE, MR TETSUYA-- COULD YOU SPEED IT UP A LITTLE?
AW, SHADDAP! I'M TRYING TO THINK!
YOU'RE JUST BUYING TIME-- YOU'VE ALREADY LOST
OH, YEAH?! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS MOVE?!!
KLAK
AIEEE-- EEEE!!
TH-THAT CAME FROM THE BATH CHAMBER!
KAHM-!!
STOP HIM! HE OWES US 5000 BESU!
KA--

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOURE DOING?! LET GO OF ME! LET GO !!
SHUT UP, YOU LITTLE SNEAK THIEF !!
SURRENDER !!
SCRAM
SCRAM
HUH ?
R. RAISA
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STARING AT, TETSUYA ?!
ME ?! WHAT ABOUT YOU ? WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING IN THERE ?!

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
I CAUGHT A THIEF! MAYBE EVEN A SPY!!
WHO'RE YOU CALLING A THIEF?!
BLUB!
BLOOSH!
EEEK!!
AIEEE!
STOP IT! I SAID STOP IT, BOTH OF YOU!!
IF YOU DON'T STOP, I'LL GET REALLY PISSED OFF!!
YOIKS!
SPLASH!
YOU PERVERT!! DON'T YOU DARE LOOK AT ME!
SORRY 'BOUT THAT ♡

DON'T YOU DARE SPEAK TO MY TETSUYA THAT WAY!

BLOSH

EEEKK!

GEEZ. I BETTER DO SOMETHING.

ALL RIGHT YOU TWO! THAT'S ENOUGH!

SPLSH

I SAID STOP!!

?!?

TETSUYA!

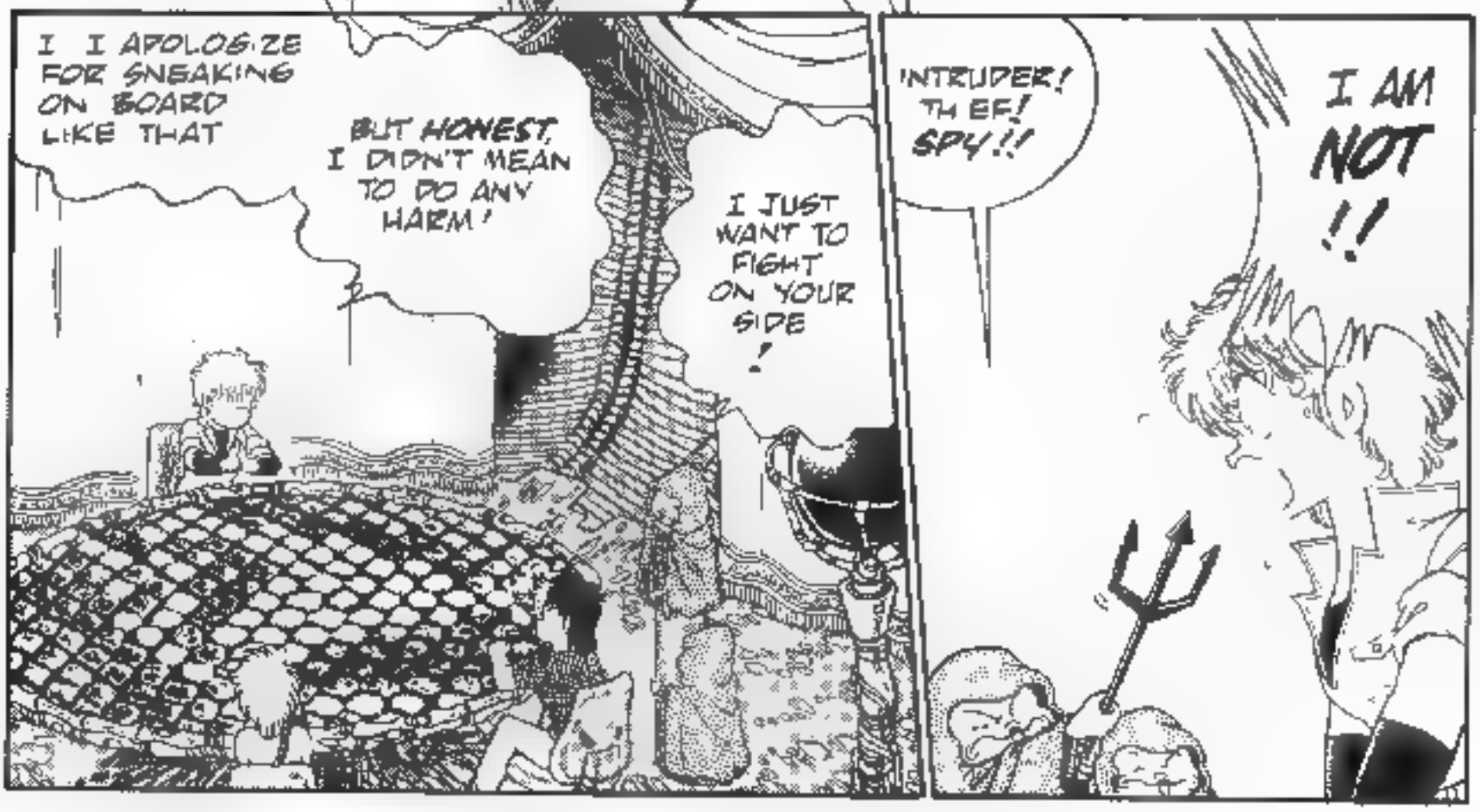
OOPS. SORRY!

HOLD IT, YOU!

OH. NO YOU DON'T !
Sweet
HUH ?
KWHOOSH
EEEEK!
EEEEK!
HEH TAKE THAT HONEY !
WHAT'S HAPPEN NG ?!
OH NO!! MR TETSUYA'S DEAD !!
NOW. NOW, MR TETSUYA.. YOU DON'T HAVE TO KILL YOURSELF WE HAVE A PAYMENT PLAN
BUG OFF !!

....
....

EH HEH
S-SORRY


I I APOLOGIZE FOR SNEAKING ON BOARD LIKE THAT
BUT HONEST, I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO ANY HARM!
I JUST WANT TO FIGHT ON YOUR SIDE!
INTRUDER! TH EF! SPY!!
I AM NOT!!

WELL, SHE'LL HAVE TO STAY. NOW WE CAN'T EXACTLY TELL HER TO GET OFF OUT HERE, CAN WE?
REALLY? IT'S OKAY?
FORGET IT!!
IF SHE STAYS, I LEAVE!!
MAYBE YOU'D RATHER HAVE HER HERE. EH?!
HEY! WAIT A SEC! CALM DOWN!!
THEY ALWAYS LIKE TH S..?
TELL THE TRUTH!!
YOU MUST HAVE HAD SOME OTHER REASON FOR STOWING AWAY ON MY SHIP!
I..I ALREADY TOLD YOU-- I JUST WANT TO FIGHT ON YOUR SIDE!
AND THAT'S ALL?!
I SWEAR!
BUT HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET ON BOARD?
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EASY THAT'S FOR SURE!
YEAH WELL, ER.. ACTUALLY

SOMEBODY HELPED HER

EH?

EH?

EH??

YAHA HAHA HA!!

I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY !!

AHA! I THOUGHT SO!!

YOU IDIOT !!

THIS SHIP IS PRINCESS KAHMI'S PRIVATE YACHT! AND YOU HELP A STOWAWAY GET ON BOARD?! AND EVEN NOTICE A GOOD-LOOKING GIRL HER OWN AGE!! DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING?!?

IT'S TWENTY LASHES FOR YOU!!!

AIEEE !! MERCY BOSS !

WAIT !

IT'S NOT HIS FAULT!

I MADE HIM DO IT! HE DIDN'T WANT TO BUT I FORCED H M!

I'M THE ONE TO BLAME!

GREAT! TOSS BOTH OF THEM OUT THE AIRLOCK !!

NOW WAHH

SO SHE'S GOING TO LEECH OFF US AFTER ALL!
TH.S S OUTRAGEOUS!
HMPH!! WELL, F YOU EXPECT ME TO EAT N THE SAME ROOM WITH HER YOU CAN -
KAHM. FOR GOD'S SAKE-- WHAT ARE YOU SO WORKED UP ABOUT?
RRGGHH!!
Hmph!!
RRRR!!
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? SHE COULD BE HANDY TO HAVE AROUND.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
HMMm?
=ERK=

AHA! NOW I GET IT! YOU'RE JEALOUS, AREN'T YOU?

AM NOT !!

YEAH NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO UPSET!

I SAID I'M NOT JEALOUS!

AW C'MON! YOU CAN ADMIT IT!

I THINK IT'S KINDA CUTE ACTUALLY.. THERE'S STILL A BIT OF LITTLE GIRL LEFT N YOU-

I AM NOT JEALOUS!!

YOW! KAHM, STOP IT! DON'T--

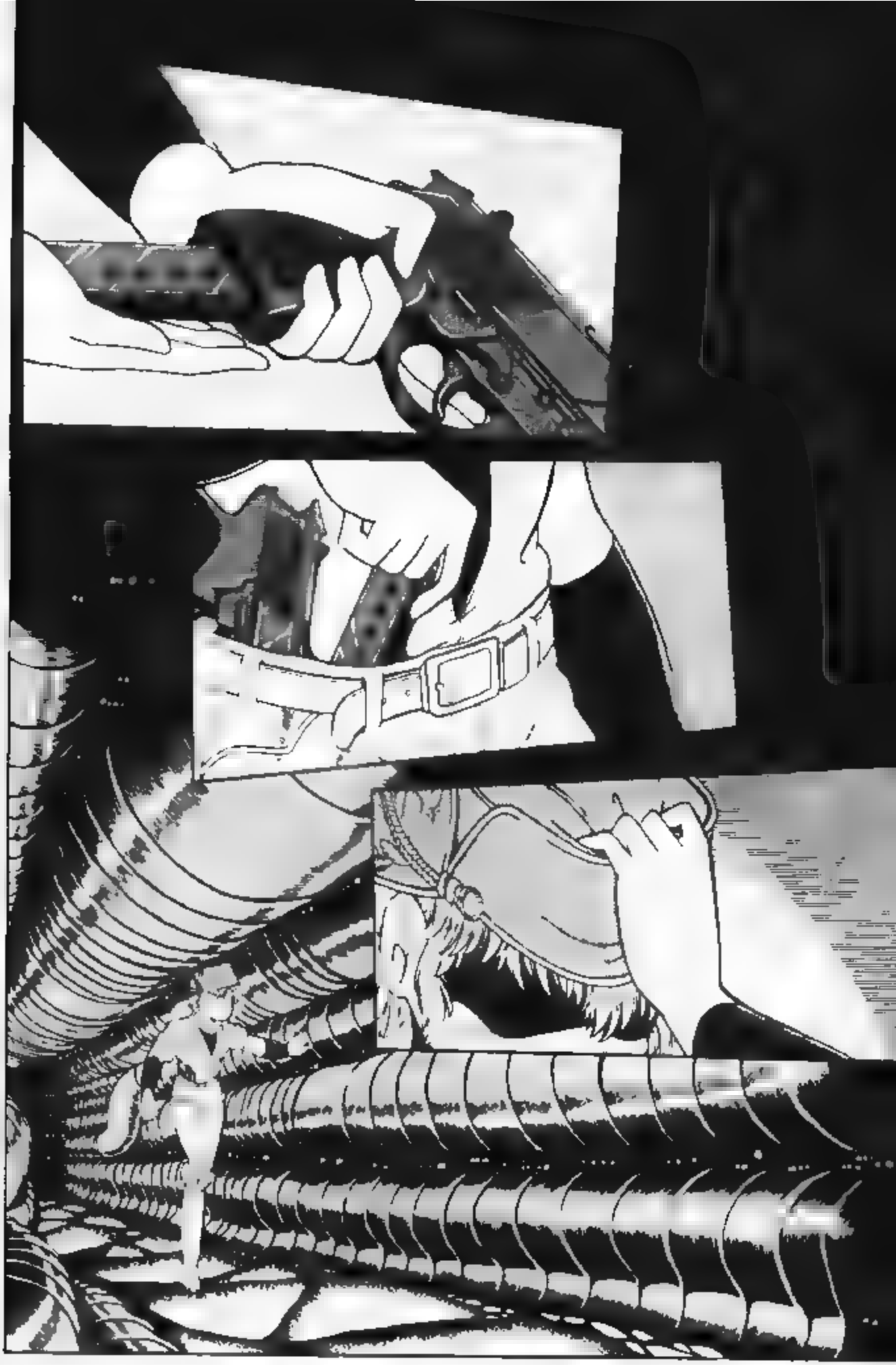
WHOO

I'M SORRY.. THIS IS THE ONLY ROOM LEFT

THAT'S OKAY. REALLY!

IT'S THE BEST A STOWAWAY COULD HOPE FOR!

WELL THEN- GOOD N GHT
SURE. G'NIGHT
HEH HEH
I ACTUALLY PULLED IT OFF!
KAHM YOU DONT HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHY I STOWED AWAY DO YOU?
I'M NOT HERE TO BREAK UP YOU AND LOVER BOY I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO. YEAH THAT'S RIGHT--
I'VE COME FOR YOU!



I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS CHANCE. KAHM...

...M'SG CROWN PRINCESS OF THE SANTOVASKU EMPIRE!

I'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT YOUR PEOPLE DID.

" ON THAT DAY "

"I SWORE I'D HAVE MY REVENGE ON THOSE MONSTERS SOMEDAY
"...BUT THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO. NOT ONE GIRL ALL ALONE"
"BUT THEN, FATE THREW US TOGETHER."
"AND"
OH. YEG! KAHM'S A PRINCESS, ALL RIGHT! HEIR TO THE WHOLE SANTOVASKL EMPIRE!
"THE MOMENT I HEARD THAT I KNEW! YOU HAD TO DIE! IT WAS THE ONLY CHOICE
"MY CHANCE TO GET THE DAUGHTER OF THE BIG BOSS HIMSELF!"
"THE ONLY PROBLEM WAS, YOU MANAGED TO GET ENGAGED TO TETSUYA..."
!
MY GOD! WHAT IF THEY'RE..UH.. "ENGAGED" IN YOU-KNOW-WHAT RIGHT NOW?!
AND IF THEY ARE, WHAT SHOULD I DO? HOW EMBARRASSING!

Gulp!

GEE..JUST LOOK AT TETSUYA'S FACE
OH HO! I GET IT-- THEY'VE BEEN FIGHTING!
WELL NO MORE LOVER'S QUARRELS FOR YOU, GIRL!
KCHAK
TETSUYA
WHY CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL?
TO BE CONTINUED

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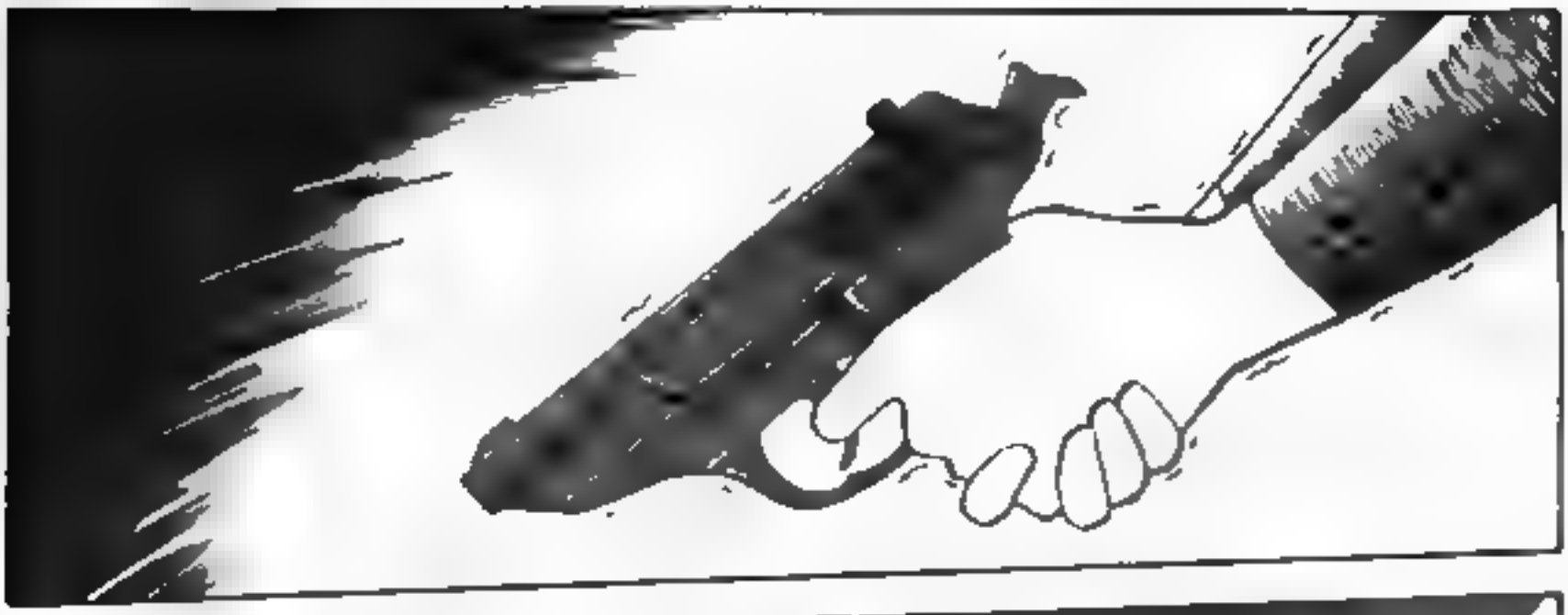
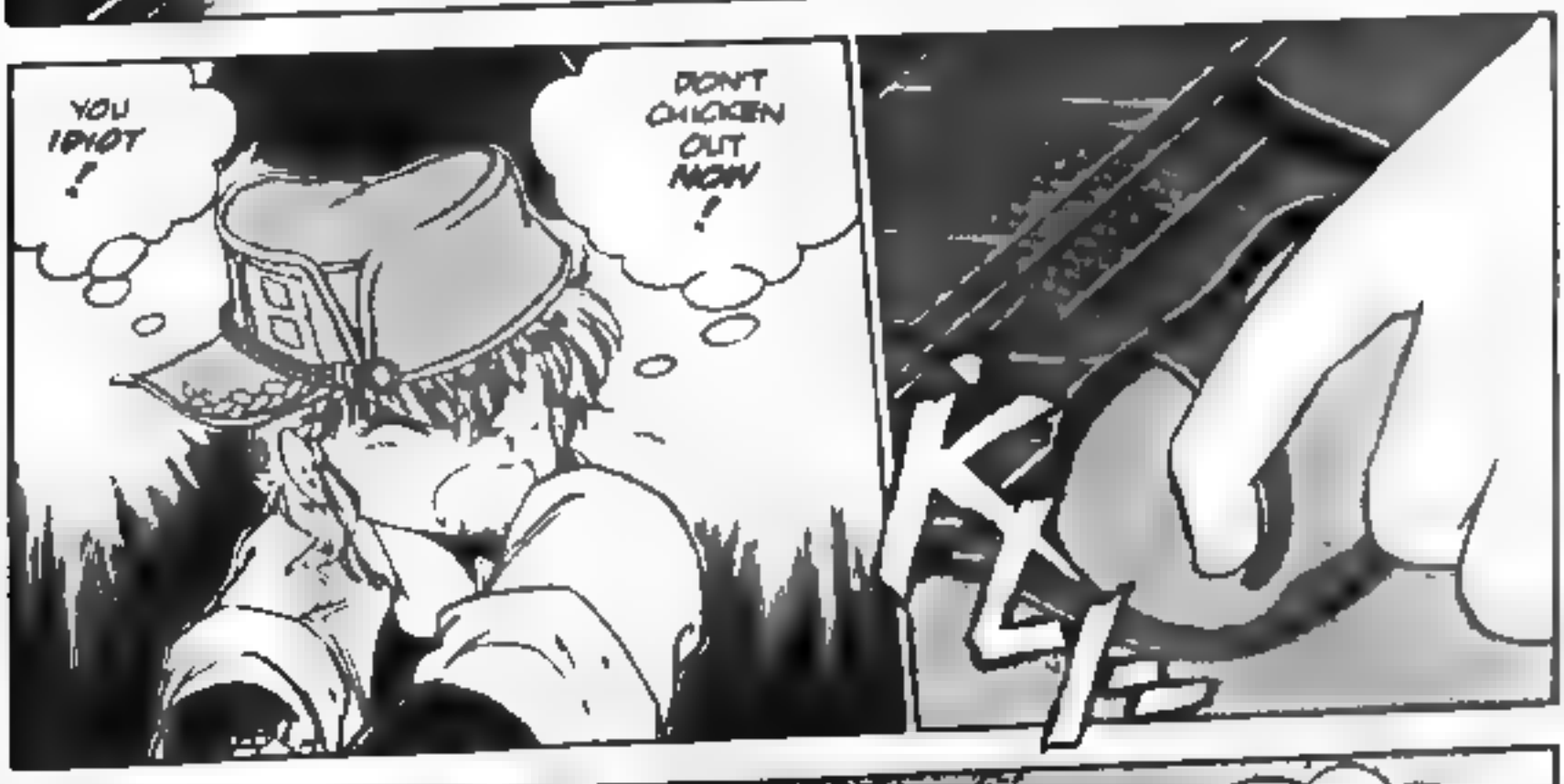
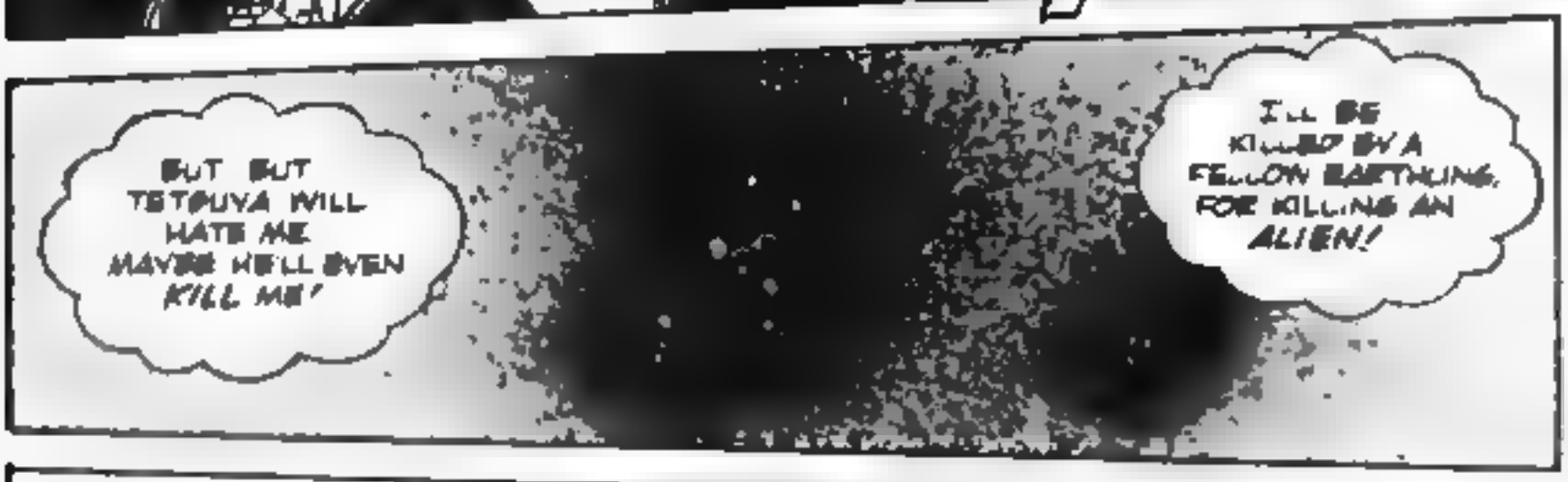



YOU IDIOT!
DON'T CHICKEN OUT NOW!


BUT BUT TETSUYA WILL HATE ME. MAYBE HE'LL EVEN KILL ME!
I'LL BE KILLED BY A FELLOW EARTHLING, FOR KILLING AN ALIEN!

MOMMA, HELP ME!

FSST

WHA-?!

WH-WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!

I DUNNO WHAT'S GOING ON BUT.

WHOOSH

..I'M GETTIN' OUT OF HERE!

F...
FATHER
!!

EH ?!
"DADDY" ? YOU MEAN THAT'S--
-THAT'S THE EMPEROR OF THE WHOLE GALAXY?!
T'S BEEN A WH LE KAHM
I SEE THAT YOU ARE STILL WILL NG TO CALL ME FATHER
DO YOU HAVE SOME BUSINESS HERE?' HOW DARE YOU COME BARGING INTO MY ROOM LIKE TH S!
I JUST WANTED TO HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH YOU, DAUGHTER
JUST A TALK ?
STOP BEING SO OBSTINATE CHILD
COME BACK TO ME
DON'T BRING YOUR FATHER ANY MORE PAIN

HUH? I WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY.

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE JUST FOR THAT?!

WELL FORGET IT!

KAHM!

I WON'T GO HOME UNTIL YOU STOP ATTACKING THE EARTH AND LET ME MARRY TETSUYA

WHAT?! OF COURSE I DO!

I INTEND TO MARRY HIM, DON'T IT

WE'RE GOING TO BE TOGETHER FOREVER!

....

....

DO YOU REALLY CARE FOR THIS BOY SO MUCH?

FOREVER

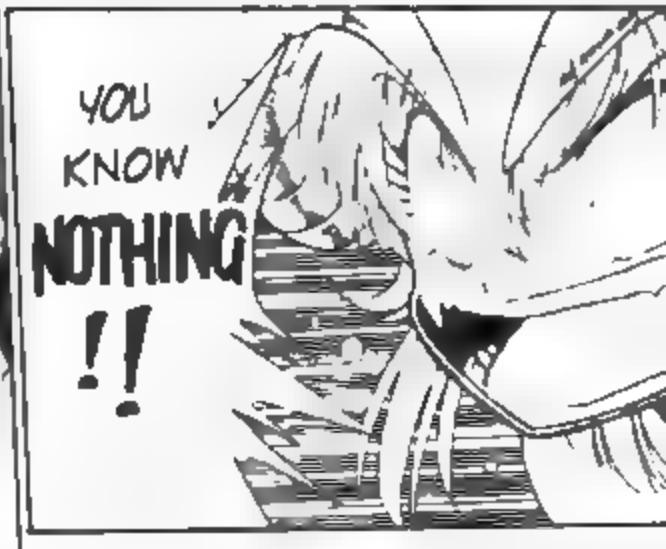
OH, DADDY! PLEASE GIVE US YOUR BLESSING!

PLEASE PLEASE PRETTY PLEASE!!

NEVER!
THAT I CAN NEVER PERMIT!!

I AM YOUR FATHER! BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I AM EMPEROR OF THE GANTOMEKU!
EVEN WERE I TO PERMIT THIS MARRIAGE AS YOUR FATHER AS THE EMPEROR IT IS SOMETHING I CANNOT DO!!

YOU


YOU KNOW NOTHING!!

GEZNIXX

DOWN! WAKE UP YOU BLUE!
HOW CAN YOU SLEEP AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
FMP
FMP
FMP
HUH?!
HEY, HEY WHAT THE HELL? I THOUGHT I ALREADY APOLOGIZED FOR YESTERDAY--
IT'S NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT! LOOK OVER THERE!
PSSHHHHH
WHA-?! WHO?! HE-- YEEOW!!
CALM DOWN, YOU GOOF!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, YOUNG EARTHLING..
YEAH, NO KIDDIN HEH SO HOW'S TRICKS?
IDIOT !!
Psst! HEY KAKM-- THIS A HOLOGRAM OR SOMETHING?
UH- UH
HE'S FOR REAL!
N-NO KIDDING?! HOW THE HELL CAN HE DO THAT?!
CAUSE HE'S THE EMPEROR OKAY?! WORRY ABOUT IT LATER!
WILL YOU STRIKE A DEAL WITH ME?
YOUNG MAN OF EARTH
HUH?

ME A DEAL ?
I HOLD THE FATE OF EARTH AND YOUR HUMAN RACE N MY HANDS
AT A SINGLE WORD FROM ME, A MIGHTY BATTLE FLEET WILL DESCEND ON YOU
ALL YOU TREASURE WILL BE DESTROYED IN A SAVAGE NSTANT
NOT ONE OF YOU SHALL BE LEFT ALIVE !
H-HAH ! DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH ! YOU TH NK WE'LL JUST LET YOU--
BUT F YOU BID FAREWELL TO KAHM
IF YOU FREE HER TO RETURN TO MY SIDE
...THEN I SHALL SPARE THE EARTH !

WHAT ?

FATHER! WHAT A DIRTY TRICK!

YOU TH NK HE S GONNA GO FOR THAT?! YOU DUMB OLD MONSTER!

YOUR FATHER QUEVAS CARES NOT WHAT HIS DAUGHTER CALLS H M

F ONLY SHE RETURNS TO H.S SIDE

WELL, NO ONE'S GONNA GO FOR YOUR STUPID OLD DEAL!

TIME FOR OLD FOG ES LIKE YOU TO GO HOME AND GO TO BED!!

EMPEROR WOULD YOU REALLY KEEP YOUR WORD ?

TETSUYA !

TETSUYA WAIT! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
KAHM' PLEASE BE QUIET!
WELL EMPEROR QUEVAS T' I'LL YOU KEEP YOUR PROMISE T
TETSUYA!!
I HAVE MY PRIDE AS EMPEROR AND RULER OF THE GALAXY!
MY WORD IS GOOD!
THE FATE OF THE EARTH HANGS ON YOUR ANSWER BOY!
CONSIDER WELL!
TETSUYA
KAHM' I
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU BUT WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?!

NO WAY!!!
HMM ?
TETSUYA, DON'T YOU DARE ACCEPT THAT DEAL, YOU HEAR ME ?!
NO WAY, I TELL YOU! NO NO NO !!!
ABSOLUTELY
NO!!!!

RAIGA?! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR DAMN BUSINESS, TETSUYA! YOU JUST KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT!

I'M REALLY PISSED OFF AT THIS GUY!!

HEY, YOU!! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, ANYWAY?!

TO TETSUYA, KAHM AND THE EARTH ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT! THEY'RE EQUAL, YOU HEAR ME!

HOW DARE YOU FORCE HIM TO CHOOSE! HOW CAN YOU SINK SO LOW?!

IS THAT ANY WAY FOR A FATHER TO BEHAVE?!

IF YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT HER, STOP BABBLING ABOUT YOUR STUPID EMPIRE AND THINK ABOUT HER HAPPINESS FOR A CHANGE!

IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE LIKE THIS THAT SHE RAN AWAY FROM HOME IN THE FIRST PLACE!!

SILENCE, INSECT!

UM, OH...?
RAISA!!
EEK!
FREAK

TET-
TETSUYA
!
TETSUYA!
SPEAK
TO ME!
TETSUYA
!
HE LIVES
STILL
IT WAS
NOTHING
MORE
THAN A
WARNING
BUT LISTEN
WELL HAHM!
IF
YOU STILL
REFUSE ME
THEN I SHALL
HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT TO TAKE
HIS LIFE
ONCE AND
FOR ALL
FATHER
!!

BAKA! TAKE TETSUYA AND GET OUT OF HERE!
BUT BUT KAHM
JUST DO AS I SAY! GET OUT !!
NO! THEY STAY!
HNNK!

DAMN
YOU
FATHER
!!

RMBRMB
RMBRMBBMB
WHA-
?!
MR
MR.
TETSUYA
!?
DOF
!

HERE! YOU'D BETTER TAKE THIS!

HUH?

HURRY UP!

KAHM'S PRETTY TOUGH, SO SHE'S PROBABLY OKAY BUT JUST IN CASE--!

WELL ER. UMM, WHAT IS THIS THING?

? ? ? ?

IT'S A PISTOL! A HANDGUN! A WEAPON!!

GYAAH!! BLAM

WOULD YOU FOR GOD'S SAKE HURRY UP!!

WUHH

WUHH

D... DAMN IT ALL!

KAHM YOUR POWERS CANNOT DEFEAT ME!
NO MORE THAN YOUR RAGTAG REBELS CAN DEFEAT THE MPERIAL ARMY.
ALL THAT AWAITS YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS IS DEATH
WHMP
I AM THE LAW OF THE UNIVERSE I AM ORDER
KAHM. I AM THE EMPEROR
WHY DO YOU HATE TETSUYA SO MUCH?!
WHY WON'T YOU LET US LOVE EACH OTHER ?!
WHY, DADDY ?!
AND YET YOU STILL SAY YOU WILL FIGHT ME ?

THE DAUGHTER OF THE EMPEROR OF THE GALAXY MARRYING AN INSIGNIFICANT ENEMY

HOW CAN *LAW* ACCEPT SUCH *CHAOS?*

TO DO SO WOULD MEAN THE COLLAPSE OF ALL THE COLLAPSE OF *ORDER* ITSELF

MY DAUGHTER PLEASE COME HOME WITH ME LET US TALK TOGETHER AS WE RELAX IN THE GREAT HALL

I WON'T! IT'S ALL LIES, JUST A PACK OF LIES!!

I WILL MARRY TETSUYA! I WILL!

AND I'LL PROTECT TETSUYA'S PLANET TOO! HIS *HOME!*

KAHM!!

JUST GO AWAY!

SO
STUPID
!

TETSUYA!
YOU
GONNA
BE
THERE
ALL DAY?
HEY!
WAKE UP
WILL YOU
!?

WHY NOT

UHHH . KAHM

HMPH !

THUD

HENK !

OW. OWW. .

HUH ? RA-SA ?

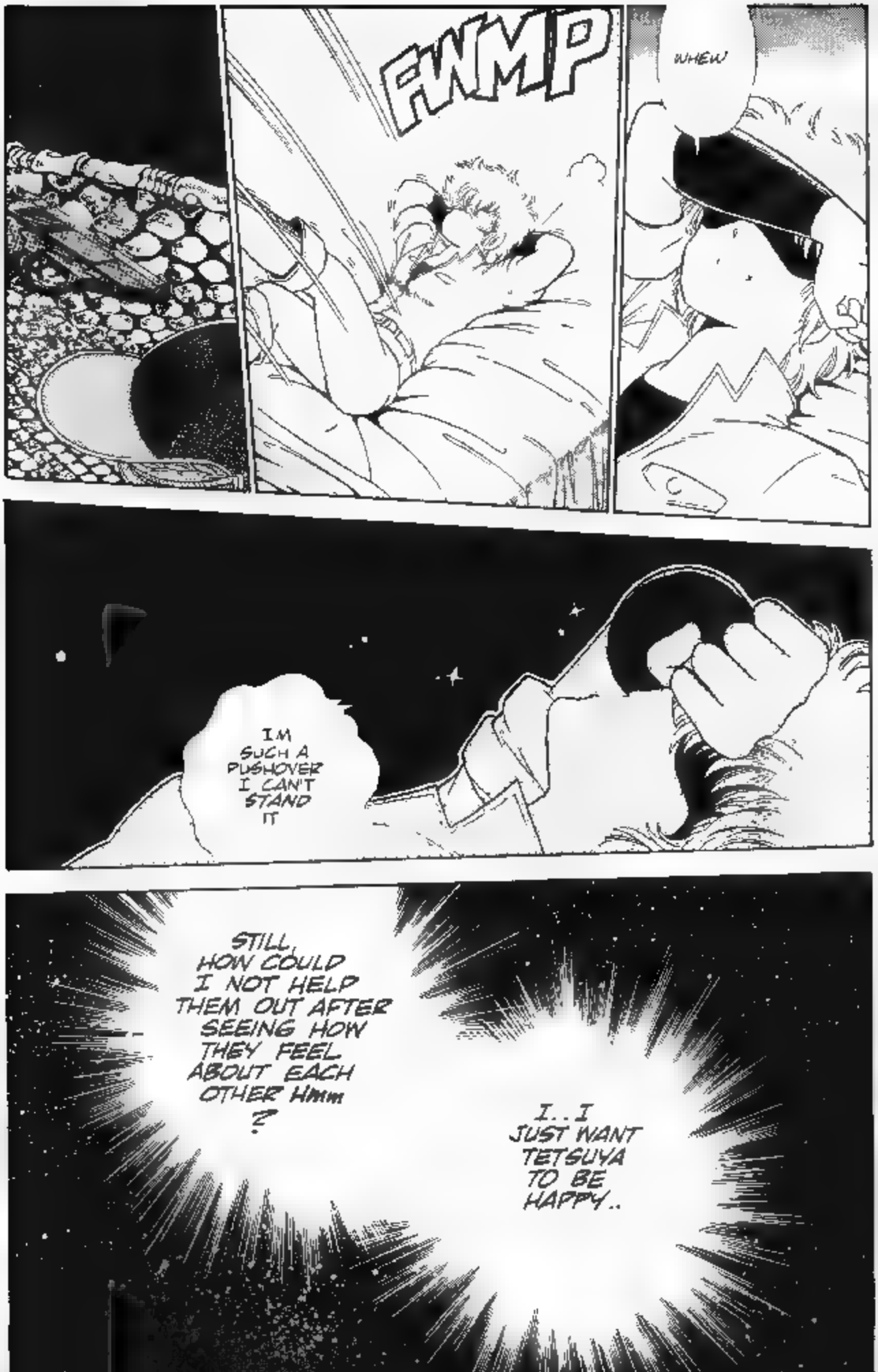
HMPH !!

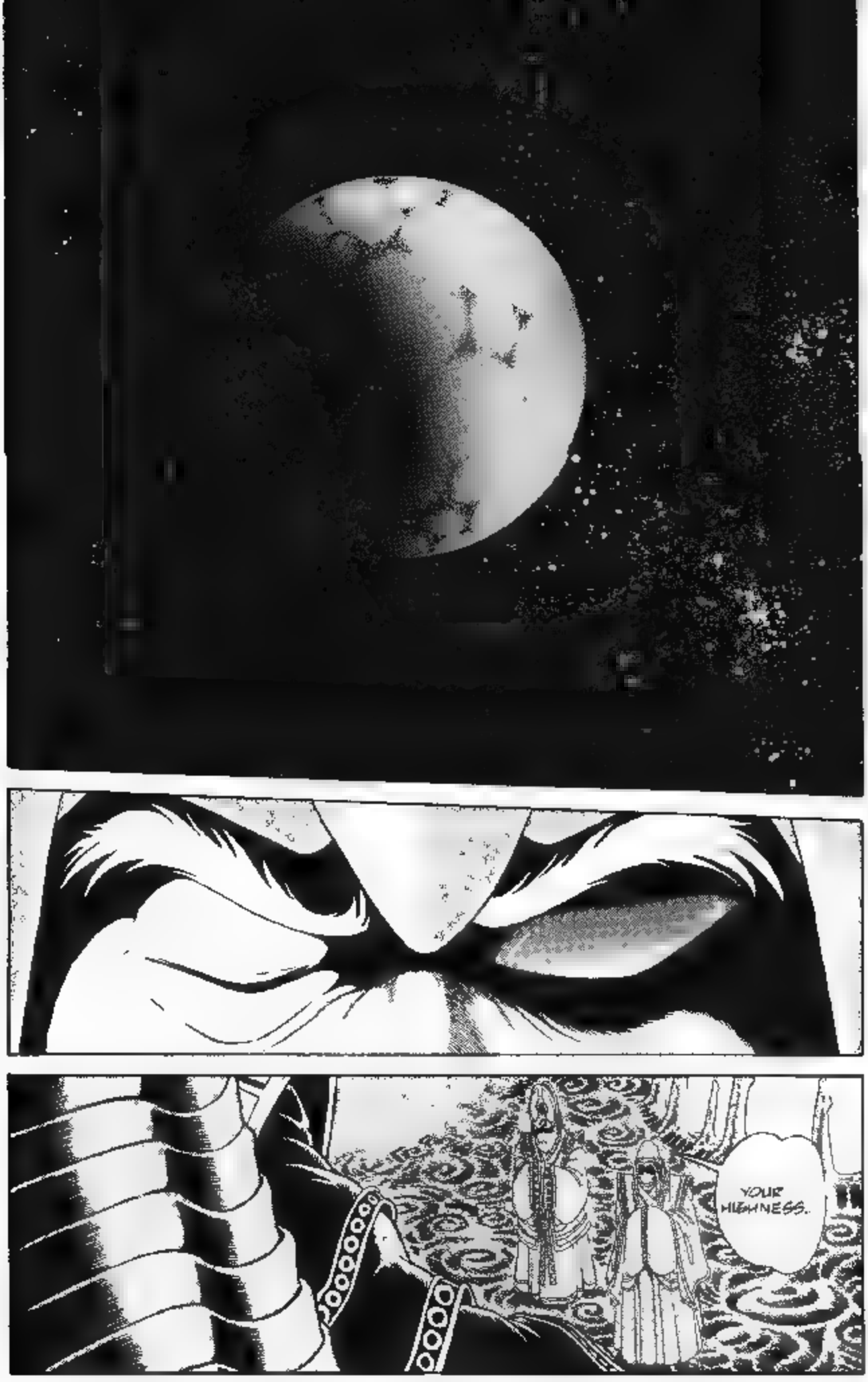
TETSUYA!
TETSUYA!
KAHM!!
WAA
AHH!!
:sniff:
:sniff:
I IM SURE GLAD YOU'RE OKAY KAHM

OOHH!! I'M SO MAD AT MY FATHER !!
AND I COULDN'T EVEN TOUCH HIM W TH MY SPELLS!!
THAT OLD--
HEY, HEY! DON'T TAKE T OUT ON ME!
EXCUSE US
HEY YOU TWO LOVEBIRDS
HURRY UP AND GET MARRIED, OKAY ?!

SAY WHAT?!
MAR. MARRIED?
WELL, WHY NOT? YOU LOVE EACH OTHER ANYONE CAN SEE THAT
AND YOU ELOPED SO YOU COULD GET MARRIED RIGHT?
AND FOR THAT MATTER WHY HAVEN'T YOU TWO GOT A BABY GOING YET. HUH?!
H-HEY! DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY!
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE IF THE EMPEROR WON'T GIVE YOU PERMISSION?
JUST GET MARRIED ANYWAY, DEFEAT THE IMPERIAL FLEET AND THEN YOU CAN RELAX RIGHT?
UH YEAH I GUESS WE COULD
HMMM
BUT I MEAN, MAYBE THIS ISN'T REALLY THE RIGHT TIME TO-
HEY, YOU LITTLE SQUIRTS! C'MON BACK HERE!!
WHAT?! A WEDDING?!

YOU HEARD ME! LET'S HAVE A REAL BLOWOUT!
AHH, WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING AND WONDERING, OURSELVES
THIS IS JOYOUS NEWS INDEED!
OH DEAR, OH DEAR WHAT TO DO NEXT? CAN WE GET THE WEDDING DRESS READY IN TIME? AND MY GOODNESS, THE COOKING
NO PROB!
IF WE ALL WORK TOGETHER, WE'LL BE READY IN NO TIME!
OF COURSE, THE DRESS SHOULD BE IN BASIC WHITE
YOU THINK WE'RE REALLY NEEDED HERE, KAHM?
WHO'S GOING TO GIVE AWAY THE BRIDE?
IS THERE ENOUGH FOOD IN THE STORAGE ROOMS?
A WEDDING?! ALL RIGHT!
NO SHIT HUH? NOTHIN LIKE A WEDDING FOR A DECENT PARTY - HAW!
A WEDDING INVITATION?


FWMP
WHEW
I'M SUCH A PUSHOVER I CAN'T STAND IT
STILL, HOW COULD I NOT HELP THEM OUT AFTER SEEING HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT EACH OTHER Hmm ?
I..I JUST WANT TETSUYA TO BE HAPPY..


YOUR HIGHNESS..

SHE'S AN OBST NATE ONE THAT GIRL SHE CHALLENGED ME TO BATTLE! HER OWN FATHER!

NO IT'S TOO LATE SHE HAS MADE UP HER MIND AND LOCKED AWAY HER HEART

BUT YOUR HIGHNESS SURELY--

THAT GIRL! SHE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE AFTER MY BAD SIDE!

...

YOUR HIGHNESS THERE S STILL T ME!

I BEG YOU NOT TO G VE UP ON HER !

ENOUGH BISHOP

T HAS ALREADY BEEN DEC DED!

BERUFA! ORGAN ZE A PUNITIVE STRIKE FLEET IMMEDIATELY!

YOUR HIGHNESS

THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE
THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP UNDER GENERAL GERUHN HAS ALREADY BEEN DEPLOYED INTO STRIKE FORMATION
THEY WAIT IMPATIENTLY FOR YOUR HIGHNESS'S GLORIOUS ORDERS
YOU HAVE ANTICIPATED MY MOVES VERY CLEVERLY BERUFA
WERE YOU REALLY SO CONFIDENT I WOULD TURN ON MY OWN DAUGHTER ?
NO! I MEAN OF COURSE NOT MY LORD
I I JUST THOUGHT I SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL CONTINGENCIES.
.....
.....
I FEAR THAT I HAVE ANGERED MY LORD
IT ' IS NOTHING
GENERAL GERUHN !
BEFORE YOU DEPART FOR THE FRONT PLEDGE VICTORY BEFORE OUR LORD THE EMPEROR!
YES SIR !

I PLEDGE MY UNDYING LOYALTY TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS QUEVAS THE 13TH EMPEROR OF THE ALMIGHTY SANTOVASKU LORD OF THE GALACTIC EMPIRE!

I SWEAR IN THE NAME OF THE DIETY AS A FEARLESS WARRIOR OF THE EMPIRE TO SURRENDER MY LIFE IF NEEDED IN HONOR OF THIS PLEDGE!

I PHOM BERENTE BERULH! COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP DO SO SOLEMNLY SWEAR!

VERY WELL

THE EMPIRE EXPECTS OF 'TS WARRIORS ONLY VICTORY—OR IGNOMINOUS DEATH!

I ANT C PATE YOUR TRIUMPHANT RETURN!

MY LORD!

Y YOUR HIGHNESS!

SURELY YOU DO NOT MEAN TO ATTACK THE SACRED PLANET?! FOR GENERATIONS WE HAVE LEFT T UNTOUCHED

THE EMPIRE NO LONGER NEEDS A "SACRED PLANET" H GH PRIEST

"THAT PLANET MAY HAVE BEEN THE BIRTHPLACE OF OUR DISTANT FOREFATHERS. BUT NOW IT IS NO MORE THAN A RELIC OF OUR PAST ERRORS.
"I CONTROL AN EMPIRE THAT REIGNS OVER ALL THE GALAXY! I HAVE NO NEED FOR WEAK-WILLED SENTIMENTALITY!"
HEAR ME, GENERAL! VICTORY MEANS TOTAL DESTRUCTION! SLAUGHTER THE REBELS TO THE LAST MAN!
AND AFTER YOU HAVE DISPOSED OF THIS PATHETIC REBELLION...
...DESTROY THE ROOT CAUSE OF THIS DISTURBANCE, THE SACRED PLANET ITSELF!!
AND THEN I WANT THAT ENTIRE SECTOR OF SPACE ANNIHILATED! ERASED FROM OUR EMPIRE FOREVER!!

VVN
VVN
VVN

DARK HORSE COMICS

20 $2.25 USA
$2.80 Canada 40 PAGES—NO ADS!

OUTLANDERS™

BOOK XX

by JOHJI MANABE

STUDIO PROTEUS

OUTLANDERS™

BOOK TWENTY-ONE

WE'VE BEEN SENDING MEGATRONS INTO THE CORE OF THE EMPIRE EVERY DAY, TRYING TO GATHER INTELLIGENCE

OF COURSE. MOST OF THEM GET PICKED OFF ENROUTE. NONETHELESS

OH, WOULDN'T THAT BE SOMETHING !!
OH, GOD!! HEE HEE HEE!!
WOULD YOU MIND SHUTTING UP OVER THERE, KAHM ?!

ALL RIGHT, YOU! JUST WHAT IS SO DAMN FUNNY ?!

WE'VE GOT A LOT TO DO OTHER THAN JUST PREPARING FOR YOUR STUPID WEDDING, YOU KNOW!

BAM

Ha Ha Ha! BATTIA'S JEALOUS !!

AH, TO HELL WITH IT-- SHE'S A TOTAL LOSS...

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, TETSUYA! DO SOMETHING !

SORRY SHE'S TOO FAR GONE FOR ME, TOO!

I JUST DON'T BELIEVE IT...AT A CRITICAL TIME LIKE THIS, SHE.

ENOUGH! JUST FORGET ABOUT HER, THEN.

THAT'S THE BEST PLAN!

SO, TO CONTINUE

ONE OF OUR SHIPS FINALLY DID PENETRATE DEEP INTO IMPERIAL TERRITORY

BEFORE WE LOST THEM, THEY MANAGED TO GET OFF A BURST TRANSMISSION.
I'M AFRAID IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO BE GOING UP AGAINST THE ENTIRE 6TH ARMY GROUP
THE BIG SIX, EH...?
I'M AFRAID SO
ALL THE 6TH ARMY GROUP FLEET UNITS STATIONED IN THE BAJVAS SYSTEM HAVE STARTED TO REDEPLOY
FLAGSHIP QUAIZA HAS LEFT ITS STATION NEAR THE IMPERIAL PLANET CURRENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN.
WHO'S THIS "6TH ARMY GROUP"?
IT'S A LEVEL-ONE ARMORED BATTLE GROUP, LED BY GENERAL GERULH!
COMBINED ORDER OF BATTLE. 203 DIVISIONS.
HEAVY COMBATANTS SHOULD COME OUT TO ONE EIGHT MILLION WARSHIPS OR THEREABOUTS
EIGHT--!
EIGHT MILLION ?!?

O.. OKAY THEN, HOW ABOUT US? HOW MANY SHIPS WE GOT?
ALLIES, TOO?
HOW ABOUT IT, GARI? IF WE ADD IN ALL THE AUXILIARY UNITS, SHOULD BE 12! RIGHT?
12Z, BOSS.
GHAAA...
HEY, WHAT'S WITH THE KID? LOOKS A LITTLE GREEN AROUND THE GILLS, ALL OF A SUDDEN...
NOW, GEORALDI— WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? WE ARE OUTNUMBERED JUST A BIT, YOU KNOW!
ACTUALLY IT IS A BIT STRANGE
SURE WE'RE A REBEL ARMY, AND THE EMPIRE HAS TO TEACH US A LESSON. BUT AFTER ALL, WE ARE JUST ONE DIVISION!
POKE POKE
SO WHY ALL THE FIREPOWER? I MEAN, EVEN ALLOWING FOR A SAFETY MARGIN...
..THE RATIO IS WAY OUT OF LINE! IT'S DOWNRIGHT ABSURD. IN FACT

HEY, IT JUST GOES TO SHOW WHAT BADASS MOTHERS WE ARE!! WE GOT THE EMPIRE SCARED OUTTA THEIR SHORTS!!
HAW HAW HAW
DO YOU REALLY HAVE AS MUCH AS TWO BRAIN CELLS OR DID I OVERCOUNT.?
TELL ME, TETSUYA DOES EARTH HAVE ANY MILITARY CAPABILITY AT ALL?
MILITARY CAPABILITY..?
QUIT YOUR CRINGING!
I FOUGHT ONE OF YOUR SPACESHIPS ONCE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
BUT I MEAN REAL FIREPOWER, DO YOU HAVE ANY MAJOR WARSHIPS, BATTLE CRUISERS ANYTHING LIKE THAT?
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING-- US?
IF WE DID, YOU THINK I'D BE SO DEPRESSED?
SORRY I ASKED
SO IF THE EARTH DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING, WHY ARE THEY SENDING SUCH A HUGE FLEET?
THE ORDERS FOR THIS ASSAULT APPARENTLY CAME STRAIGHT FROM THE EMPEROR HIMSELF.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY THE EMPEROR COULD HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN WORRIED ABOUT US AS A THREAT.. IT MUST BE SOMETHING ELSE.
I THINK I'LL GET DEPRESSED AGAIN..
HMMM

...!

TETSUYA YOU JUST SAID A MINUTE AGO THAT EARTH WEAPONS ARE NO GOOD MMM?

ER.. YEAH... SO ?

BUT SOMETHING HIT US HARD!

TEN OF OUR BATTLESHIPS WERE DESTROYED BY A GIGANTIC ENERGY WAVE DOWN ON EARTH! TEN OF THEM AT ONCE!

AN ENERGY WAVE ?

YOU MEAN A TIDAL WAVE OR SOMETHING ?

NOT THIS OLD STORY AGAIN !

THIS IS NO JOKE, GEOBALDI! TEN SHIPS!

I MEANT TO BRING IT UP AT THE PEACE TALKS.

BUT IF IT IS SOME KIND OF SECRET WEAPON, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TOLD US ABOUT IT ANYWAY.

THEY DON'T TRUST US AS FAR AS THEY COULD THROW THE MOON..

THEY DON'T..?

BUT DAMMIT, THE QUESTION IS STILL THERE-- WHY SO MANY SHIPS?

THIS IS GOING TO TAKE SOME SERIOUS LOOKING INTO TO FIND OUT WHAT'S BEHIND IT.

"BEHIND IT"--?

HEY! I'VE GOT A GREAT IDEA! WHY DON'T WE STRIKE FIRST...?!

YEAH! HIT THE IMPERIAL PLANET!!

.....

EH..

UH-OH - THERE HE GOES AGAIN.

WHATEVER WILL HE COME UP WITH NEXT I ASK YOU!

.....

Y'KNOW - THAT'S ACTUALLY NOT A BAD PLAN

!!

GEORALD!!! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!

NAN. MAY AS WELL BE SHOT FOR A LION AS A LAMB. EH?

WE SLUG IT OUT WITH THE 6TH TOE-TO-TOE AND WE'RE DEAD MEAT ANYWAY

AND PROTECTING THE EARTH? HAH! A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM.

SO IN THAT CASE, WHY NOT SEIZE THE INITIATIVE? MIGHT BREAK THE DEADLOCK ANYWAY

THEY'LL TRY TO WIPE US OUT BEFORE THEY HIT EARTH, RIGHT?

BUT IF WE SLIP AWAY

THE ENTIRE FLEET WILL HAVE TO TURN AROUND AND CHASE US!

DAMN STRAIGHT! AND WE'LL MAKE OUR STAND RIGHT AT THE GATES OF THE IMPERIAL PLANET!

AND THEN WHAT DEAR BOYS?

I AIN'T GOT ALL THE DETAILS WORKED OUT YET

I JUST FIGURED IT OUGHTA BE INTERESTIN' TO STIR THINGS UP A BIT, EH?

WELL, THAT'S JUST BLOODY TYPICAL OF YOU!! THAT'S ALL YOU EVER THINK OF!!

AW SHUDDUP!! HELL, I'M AN IDIOT SURE, I KNOW!!

WELL NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD YOUR LITTLE FANTASY LET'S GET SERIOUS OKAY?!

GEE I THOUGHT IT WAS A GREAT PLAN.

I DON'T DENY THAT YOU GET THESE GREAT FLASHES OF INSPIRATION, HON

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO START THINKING OF THE CONSEQUENCES, TOO!

=HMPH=

IT WAS A GOOD PLAN FOR A BLE

HEY BOSS! A SHUTTLE JUST DOCKED WITH SOME OF THOSE GUYS YOU INVITED UP FROM EARTH!
YOU WANT ME TO BRING THEM UP HERE?
AW HELL, IT'S JUST THOSE OLD GEEZERS FROM THE TALKS RIGHT?
NO POINT IN ME WASTIN MY TIME WITH A BUNCHA OLD FARTS...
NOW, IF ONLY THEY'D BROUGHT SOME WOMEN..
ONE OF THEM IS A WOMAN, BOSS! GOOD LOOKING, TOO!
HOT DAMN!! SEND HER IN!
A WOMAN..?
YES'M ER SHE'S JUST OUTSIDE..
HMM..?

WHA-?!
?
Y--
YOU--
TETSUYA

BAM
JUST WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS ?!!
THE SORCERESS JILEHR AND OPERATION PHOENIX WERE OUR TWO LAST AND GREATEST HOPES!
HER POWERS ESPECIALLY WERE ALL WE REALLY HAD LEFT TO USE AGAINST THE ALIENS!
FOR GOD'S SAKE, NO ONE SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN YOU JUST HOW MUCH TIME AND EFFORT WENT INTO FINDING HER!
AND NOW!! NOW WE FIND YOU'VE GONE AND JUST HANDED HER OVER TO THE ENEMY! THEY CALL THEMSELVES REBELS, BUT THEY'RE STILL ALIENS!!
AND WORSE-- YOU DID THIS WITHOUT CONSULTING WITH US THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF!
ALL RIGHT COMMANDER TOGO! SO FAR WE'VE TURNED A BLIND EYE TO YOUR ARROGANCE YOUR HEAVY-HANDED TACTICS!
BUT THIS TIME BY GOD, YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR!!

THIS IS CLEAR-CUT TREASON, SIR, TREASON AGAINST THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE! YOU ARE A TRAITOR TO EARTH!
A TRAITOR ?
HARSH WORDS, GENERAL..
NOT HARSH ENOUGH, TOGO!!
VERY WELL, THEN, YOU FOOLS-- LISTEN TO ME!
I HAVE JUST GOTTEN RID OF THE GREATEST THREAT THE HUMAN RACE HAS EVER KNOWN !
WHAT ?!
YET WHAT IF WE WIN? IF WE DO, WE WIN ONLY TO BECOME THE SLAVES OF A TYRANT RULER!
TRUE, IF WE LOSE THIS WAR, MANKIND WILL PERISH
I SPEAK OF GREAT LEADER NEO, GENTLEMEN!

UNTIL NOW HE HAS RULED FROM THE SHADOWS
BUT IF WE WIN, HE WILL STEP FORTH INTO THE LIGHT TO CONTROL THE PLANET AS THE SAVIOR OF THE EARTH!!
WITH THE SORCERESS JILENE AT HIS SIDE, THE HUMAN RACE WOULD BE POWERLESS BEFORE HIM.
BUT THE EARTH BELONGS TO US!
IT DOESN'T BELONG TO ALIENS OR TO THE DEFEATED REMNANTS OF SOME PAST CIVILIZATION.
IN TIME, HE WOULD BUILD A NEW EMPIRE OF HIS OWN
YES, IT IS A SHAME TO LOSE JILENE'S POWERS.
BUT THAT POWER IS HERS AND HERS ALONE IT IS BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO CONTROL
WE WOULD BE LESS THAN NOTHING TO HER SHE COULD DESTROY US ALL WITH A GLANCE!

BUT OPERATION PHOENIX IS ALREADY WITHIN OUR POWER, AND FAR MORE CONTROLLABLE.
WE CAN TRIUMPH IN THIS WAR EVEN WITHOUT HER POWER!
DON'T YOU AGREE, GENTLEMEN ?
I... WE UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY, COMMANDER TOGO.
..BUT STILL. WHAT OF NEO? DON'T YOU THINK HE MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT'S BECOME OF JILEHR? AND WHAT WILL HE DO WHEN HE FINDS OUT ?
THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR
WITHOUT JILEHR, NEO IS NOTHING MORE THAN A PITIFUL OLD MAN ON THE BRINK OF DEATH.

WELL... HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY GREAT LEADER NIKO?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?! WHO ARE YOU?!

HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?!

OH YOU MUSTN'T GET UP. WE NOT THAT I SUPPOSE YOU COULD EVEN NEED I TO DEFEND YOU TO

GET OUT OF HERE!!

ALL OF YOU LEAVE THIS ROOM AT ONCE!!

I'M AFRAID THAT THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF HAVE DETERMINED THAT YOUR CONTINUED EXISTENCE IS UNNECESSARY TO THE HUMAN RACE.

IN WHAT?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I ASSURE YOU, WE HAVE THE GREATEST RESPECT FOR YOUR WORK IN UNIFYING THE HUMAN RACE IN THE FACE OF OUR ENEMIES.

AND, OF COURSE, WE THANK YOU FOR GIVING US *OPERATION PHOENIX*, AND ALL IT ENTAILS.

HOWEVER, WE'D REALLY RATHER TAKE CARE OF THINGS OURSELVES FROM NOW ON

I'M AFRAID WE WON'T BE NEEDING YOU ANYMORE LORD NEO.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY YOURSELF ABOUT US, SIR-- WE'LL BE FINE JUST REST IN PEACE

FOREVER

RRIINNGG
RRIINNGG
TOGO HERE
IT'S OVER SIR YES, SIR. WITHOUT A DOUBT
I SAW IT WITH MYSELF.

YES, SIR WE'LL DESTROY THE FACILITIES AS PLANNED
EXCELLENT GOOD WORK COLONEL.
WHAROOM!

BAROOM

RMBRMB
!
RMBRMB

GEE I WONDER WHAT THAT NOISE WAS
MAYBE AN EARTHQUAKE ?
VERY WELL, GENTLEMEN. OUR HOUSE-CLEANING IS FINISHED

YOU'RE YOU'RE A BOLD MAN TOGO.

A DANGEROUS GAMBLE, TRUE

BUT I DID IT FOR ALL MANKIND

I NEVER WOULD HAVE DREAMED THAT NEO COULD BE ELIMINATED SO EASILY!

UNBELIEVABLE!!

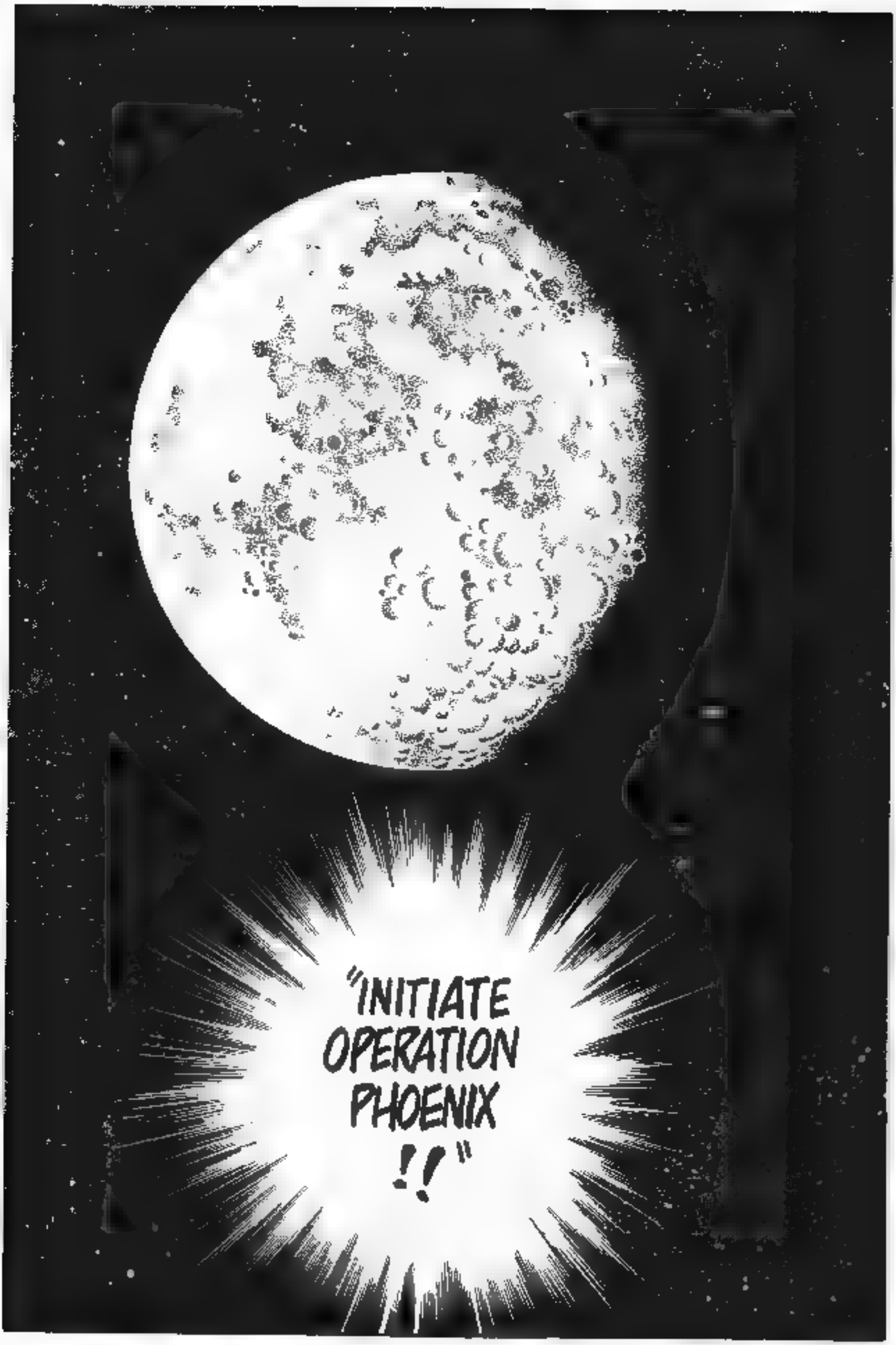
I WAS FAR MORE WORRIED ABOUT JILLHE THAN NEO.

THAT WAS WHY I DEALT WITH HER FIRST LEAVING HIM WITHOUT PROTECTION

JILLHE'S POWERS HAVE NOW BEEN SUPPRESSED BY HER ORIGINAL PERSONALITY AND SHE HAS BEEN BODILY REMOVED TO OUTER SPACE.

NEO HIMSELF HAD ALREADY LOST HIS OWN POWERS.

T WAS NOTHING.
NOW WE CAN TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THOSE ALIENS!
IS THIS HYPERCORE CONTROL ?
COMMANDER TOGO HERE
INITIATE OPERATION PHOENIX !!
THAT'S CORRECT. I WANT ALL PREPARATIONS COMPLETE WITHIN 24 HOURS.


"INITIATE OPERATION PHOENIX !!"

THIS SUCKS STANDING WATCH DRIVES ME NUTS.
WOULDN'T BE SO BAD IF YOU WERE A DECENT LOOKIN BROAD
SO SORRY I WAS BORN, PAL.!
DAMN, BUT THE BOSS SURE HAS T GOOD NIGHT AFTER NIGHT WITH THAT TASTY BATTLA YEAH!
US GRUNTS ALWAYS GET SCREWED. AND NOT THE RIGHT WAY
HUH ?
BEEP
WHAT THE HELL ?

WHAT'S UP ?
I DUNNO... PROBABLY NOTHIN LOOKS LIKE THE SENSORS PICKIN' UP SOME KINDA WEIRD ENERGY FIELD
OH YEAH ? FROM WHERE ? YOU GOT A FIX ?
IT'S COMIN' FROM THAT BIG MOON NEAR EARTH..
SO WHAT KIND OF ENERGY IS IT ? YOU RUN AN ANALYSIS YET ?
YEAH, I DID THAT-- COMES BACK WITH "ANALYSIS IMPOSSIBLE" TOLD YA IT WAS WEIRD!
MAYBE WE OUGHTA TELL THE BOSS, HUH ?
NAW, TO HELL WITH THAT
HE'D JUST GET PISSED IF WE BUGGED HIM WITH SOMETHIN SMALL LIKE THAT
"YEAH YOU GOT THAT RIGHT."

IT'S ALL OVER, CAPTAIN HAGIWARA

I THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE

WITHOUT YOUR COOPERATION WE'D NEVER HAVE GOTTEN INTO HIS CHAMBERS

YOU'VE SAVED MANKIND

ENOUGH!! I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO THIS FROM *YOU!*

YES, I HAD MY REASONS, BUT STILL - I BETRAYED MY MASTER AND MENTOR!

WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT?

"YOU DID WHAT YOU DID TO SAVE *AKI OKIZAWA*

"AND I DID WHAT I DID TO GIVE HUMANITY CONTROL OF ITS OWN DESTINY NEO WAS IN THE WAY, FOR BOTH OF US THAT'S ALL."

YES. I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DO IT THIS WAY FOR AKI

NEO WAS CONSUMED BY HIS LUST FOR REVENGE HE SET AKI UP AS A 'SORCERESS'

BUT EVEN *THAT* DIDN'T SATISFY HIM HE TRIED TO USE THE CRYSTAL GLOBE TO FORCE EVEN MORE POWERS UPON HER.

AND YOU COULDN'T ENDURE WATCHING HER TORMENT SO YOU HELPED HER

YOU'RE A GENTLE MAN CAPTAIN

THAT'S *ENOUGH*!

HOW CAN A CREATURE SUCH AS YOU HOPE TO UNDERSTAND?! ANY *MORE* POWER WOULD HAVE CRUSHED HER COMPLETELY!!

WATCH YOUR TONGUE CAPTAIN!

BEST YOU LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY ADDRESS YOUR SUPERIORS!

I WAS ONLY UNDER YOUR COMMAND WHEN I WAS A HUMAN. TOGO!

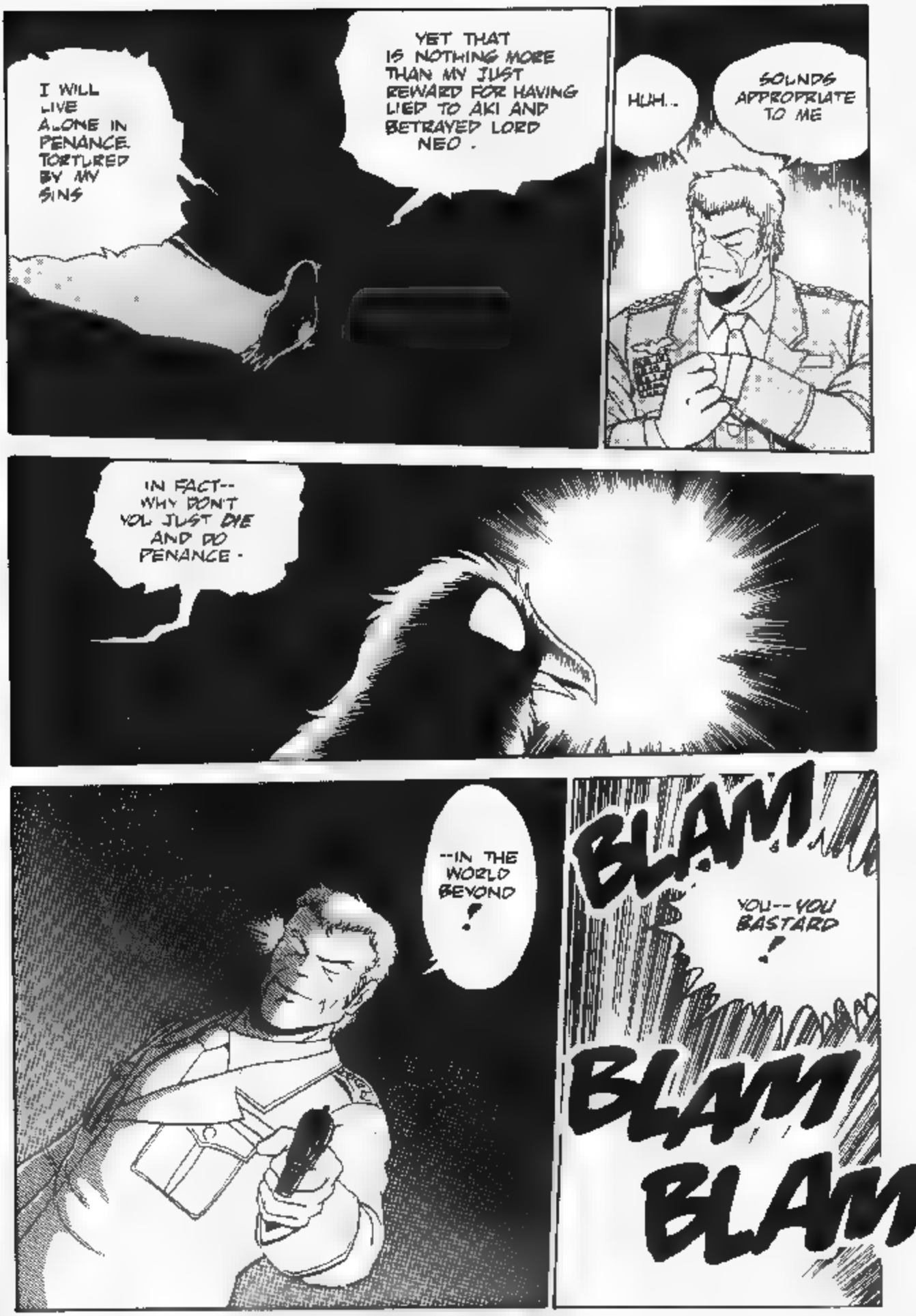
YOU HAVE NO HOLD OVER ME ANYMORE!

IN THAT CASE. WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW..?

THEY SAY "A TRAITOR HAS NO HOME"

IT DOESN'T MATTER

I WILL JUST VANISH FROM THIS EARTH


I WILL LIVE ALONE IN PENANCE. TORTURED BY MY SINS
YET THAT IS NOTHING MORE THAN MY JUST REWARD FOR HAVING LIED TO AKI AND BETRAYED LORD NEO.
HUH..
SOUNDS APPROPRIATE TO ME
IN FACT-- WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIE AND DO PENANCE.
--IN THE WORLD BEYOND!
BLAM
YOU--YOU BASTARD!
BLAM
BLAM

"AKI..."

FOOL...

YOU'VE NOTH NG TO WORRY ABOUT

YOU TWO WILL BE UNITED AGAIN, VERY SOON.

TO BE CONTINUED

DARK HORSE COMICS

OUTLANDERS™

BOOK XXI

by JOHJI MANABE

STUDIO PROTEUS

INITIATE OPERATION PHOENIX !!

ALL PERSONNEL TO BATTLE STATIONS! HYPERCORE, GO TO ALERT LEVEL FIVE!

ALL PERSONNEL MUST STAY AT THEIR POSTS FOR THE NEXT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.

DOLA LEAVING ORBIT IN EIGHTY SECONDS.. ENERGY FLUX APPROACHING MAXIMUM !

REGISTERING GRAVITY FLUCTUATIONS— PLEASE CONFIRM! CENTRAL COMPUTER CORE TEMPERATURE RISING!

NTERNAL PRESSURES RISING

2300

2400

ALL SYSTEMS CHECK OUT GREEN!

OOLA CENTRAL HERE PRESSURE ST-- R-NG

WE SHOULD REACH CRITICAL ANY TIME NOW

ALL CONTROL SYSTEMS OPERATING SMOOTHLY WE HAVE A 41. NOR FEEDBACK ECHO IN THE GRAV- TAT ONAL FUNNEL -ON T-

GREETINGS COMMANDER TOGO!

I'M DOCTOR YAMASHITA IN CHARGE OF THIS NET-

A PLEASURE DOCTOR

YOU AND YOUR MEN HAVE DONE WELL ALLOW ME TO CONVEY THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE CHIEFS OF STAFF TO YOU AND YOUR MEN

THE FINEST MINDS ON THE PLANET HAVE SPENT YEARS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THIS MONSTER
EVEN NOW, ALL WE CAN USE ARE A FEW OF THE TERMINALS IN JUST THIS ONE CONTROL CENTER AND ONLY BARELY
WHAT INCONCEIVABLE MANNER OF ENERGY THIS SYSTEM USES.
HOW THE FOCUSING CIRCUITS WORK THE CONTROL SYSTEM YOU NAME IT IT'S ALL STILL A MYSTERY TO US
IN THE END, DESPITE ALL OUR EFFORT THE BEAST HAS PROVEN INCOMPREHENSIBLE.
ALL WE CAN DO IS "USE" IT, AND CLUMSILY AT THAT STILL IT WILL BE ENOUGH
IT WAS ARROGANCE TO THINK YOU COULD EVER UNDERSTAND IT DOCTOR THIS IS A RELIC FROM A WAR THAT OCCURRED HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO
"I DOUBT ANY OF THOSE HAPPY FOOLS UP THERE ON THE SURFACE WOULD BELIEVE IT EVEN IF WE TOLD THEM."
"THEY COULD NOT COMPREHEND THAT THE MOON HANGING OVER THEIR HEADS IS REALLY A MAN-MADE SATELLITE, AND A WEAPON OF INCONCEIVABLE POWER."

"HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO, THE COLONISTS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM FORMED A SEPARATIST MOVEMENT AND DECLARED THEIR INDEPENDANCE. THUS TRIGGERING THE WARS THAT SPLIT THE RA EMPIRE FOREVER COUNTLESS YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THOSE DAYS."
"IN THE SEVENTH GALACTIC WAR, THE TIDE OF BATTLE TURNED DECISIVELY AGAINST THE EARTH. THE MASSIVE BATTLE FLEETS OF THE SANTOVASKU BEGAN CLOSING IN FOR THE KILL."

"WITH THEIR OWN FLEETS DECIMATED THE TERRAN REBELS RACED TO COMPLETE THEIR *DOOMSDAY MACHINE*

A WEAPON THAT STILL EXISTED ONLY ON THE DRAWING BOARDS"

"A GARGANTUAN GUN EMPLACEMENT CAPABLE OF REACHING OUT ACROSS THE LIGHT YEARS TO SMASH A PLANET OR EVEN A STAR"

"TO US, IT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN THE MOON BUT HOW COULD WE HAVE KNOWN IT"

"IT'S REAL NAME THE NAME GIVEN IT BY THE ANCIENTS. IS *DOLA*"

"AND YET *DOLA* WAS NEVER USED IN COMBAT BEFORE IT COULD BE ACTIVATED, VIRTUALLY ALL LIFE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM WAS EXTERMINATED"

"*DOLA* WAS LEFT BEHIND FLOATING IN SPACE. A RELIC OF A LOST WAR"

I AM QUITE CERTAIN, COMMANDER TOGO, THAT THE ANCIENTS WHO BUILT THIS THING NEVER IMAGINED, NOT IN THEIR WILDEST DREAMS, THAT SOMEDAY--
--IT WOULD FINALLY BE USED AGAINST THE ENEMY BATTLE FLEET IT WAS DESIGNED TO DESTROY, MILLIONS OF YEARS AFTER IT WAS BUILT
LORD NEO KNEW OF THIS WEAPON AND USED THE HUMAN RACE AS TOOLS TO TRY AND BRING IT BACK TO LIFE
BUT NOW IT HAS FALLEN INTO OUR HANDS-- THE TOOLS HAVE BECOME USERS.
AND POOR NEO. IT SEEMS THE OLD FOSSIL WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A TOOL HIMSELF IN THE END
STILL DOCTOR ARE YOU REALLY CERTAIN THIS THING CAN DESTROY THE ENEMY ?
THEORETICALLY SPEAKING, YES-- MANY TIMES OVER

YET IF IT WAS POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO TEST IT AT LEAST ONCE

AFTER ALL, WE ARE TOYING WITH THE FORCES THAT BIND TOGETHER THE GALAXY HERE SOMETHING. SOMETHING *UNEXPECTED* COULD HAPPEN...

THERE IS NO NEED TO TEST IT!

IF THE SYSTEMS ARE OPERATIONAL THAT'S ALL WE NEED TO KNOW

IF WE REVEAL OURSELVES AND OUR NEW POWER TO THE EMPIRE OVER SOME PETTY NERVOUSNESS, ALL WILL BE LOST

AND NOT JUST THE EMPIRE. THE *REBELS*, TOO

HM ?

"JUST THINK GENTLEMEN ONCE WE CONTROL *DOLA*--

"...IT WON'T BE THE *SANTOVASKU* WHO RULE THE GALAXY.. IT WILL BE *US!!* THE PLANET *EARTH!!*

CLIK
Beep
CIRCUIT CHECK OK THE BOARD IS GREEN
C-TO1 CHECK THAT DOES IT FOR C-BLOCK
GEE HYPERCORE SURE CAN BE CREEPY SOMETIMES
YEAH
ALL THOSE WEIRD NOISES I HATE IT!
Ha Ha Ha. Ha.

LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
YEAH!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING--!?
L-LOOK
WHA--?!

AAAA!
WHAT'S WRONG?! ARE YOU OKAY?!
WE WE SAW THIS WEIRD THING LIKE A GHOST!
A GHOST?! WHERE?
BACK THERE
??

I DON'T SEE ANYTH NG

BUT IT WAS *THERE* !! WE *SAW* IT !!

LOOK, I'VE HEARD ENOUGH FROM YOU TWO!

YOU WERE SEEING THINGS--GET BACK TO WORK!

BUT SIR..

IF YOU'RE STRESSED OUT, GET SOME TRANQUIL ZERS FROM SICKBAY YOU--

NO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE

I SAID HURRY, RIGHT?! RIGHT?!
KLANGG
HEY YOUR POTS BOILING OVER!
TOK TOK
KSSSHH
NOW, NOW, DEARS DON'T WASTE TIME FIGHTING OR WE'LL MISS THE WEDDING!
YOU THERE! TAKE THE MAIN DISHES TO THE RECEPTION HALL!
AIEE WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!

MMMM SMELLS DELICIOUS MSS RAISA!

WELL, WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?! MY OWN SPECIAL RECIPE AFTER ALL!

OH YES, OF COURSE QUITE RIGHT HA HA.

AND NOW TO TASTE IT

YEEOWWW!! HOT HOT HOT HOT!!

!! HOT !!

:GLRK:..

I GUESS MY TONGUE IS TOO DELICATE

IF IT'S TOO SPICY FOR YOU, LET ME TRY IT!

ARE YOU SURE? IT REALLY S AWFUL HOT

DON'T WORRY I LOVE HOT FOOD!

SNURP

SEE - I TOLD YOU SO! YOU NEVER LISTEN, DO YOU?!
HERE- HAVE SOME WATER!
N-NO IT'S NOT THAT HOT ACTUALLY IT'S. IT'S
IT'S THE
TASTE
OH, YEAH?! AND WHAT ABOUT THE TASTE, HUH? WELL?!
IT'S, UH INTERESTING YOU KNOW
WOW!!! THIS IS JUST EXCELLENT!! DELICIOUS!!
....
HONESTLY ? GEE THANK YOU!
IT'S MAGNIFICENT!! FIVE STARS AT LEAST!
YOU SIMPLY MUST GIVE ME THE RECIPE !
GEEZ! WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS ANYWAY! WALKS RIGHT IN AND

POKE
HUH? CAN I HELP YOU?
YEAH, IN FACT YOU CAN!
WHAT'S WITH YOU AND TETSUYA, ANYWAY?!
NOTHING REALLY I WAS JUST HIS BOSS THAT'S ALL
THAT'S ALL?
YES! DIDN'T I ALREADY TELL YOU THIS?
SURE, BUT YOU WERE AWFUL DARN HAPPY TO SEE HIM! DIDN'T EXACTLY LOOK LIKE A PLATONIC RELATIONSHIP TO ME!
OR TO KAHM, FOR THAT MATTER! SHE WAS DOWNRIGHT JEALOUS!
YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND RAISA I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD
I NEVER DREAMED WE'D MEET AGAIN. NOT EVER NOT LIKE THIS
WE WERE BOTH ALONE OUR COUNTRY DESTROYED
I WAS SO INCREDIBLY HAPPY TO SEE HIM SOMEONE I COULD CALL A FRIEND
HMPH!

BESIDES, IT'S MY *DUTY* TO ATTEND HIS WEDDING - I MUST BE BOTH MOTHER AND FATHER TO THE POOR DEAR BOY! AND TETSUYA'S SUCH A *HOPELESS* WIMP HE NEEDS ME AROUND TO TAKE CARE OF HIM ANYWAY!

NO KIDDING!

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU.? ARE YOU AND TETSUYA FRIENDS?

NO NOT "FRIENDS"

LOVERS!!

AN *ESPER*?

THAT CHICK WHO USED TO BE TETSUYA'S BOSS?

NAW NO WAY

SHE'S JUST ANOTHER BROAD THAT'S ALL.

DON'T GET ME WRONG OR NOTHIN I AIN'T SAYIN' I DON'T TRUST YOUR INTUI- T ON BUT I DUNNO
I'M NOT WRONG
THOSE WITH THE POWER CAN FEEL IT IN OTHERS
SHE'S H DING IT SOMEHOW I DON'T KNOW HOW BUT IT'S THERE
AND EVEN DORMANT IT WAS ENOUGH TO STUN ME GEOBALDI SHE'S POWERFUL-- NCREDIBLY POWERFUL'
NO K DDIN HUH HAS PRINCESS KAHM NOTICED?
KAHM?! FORGET T SHE'S OFF ON CLOUD NINE
AIN'T THAT SWEET'
BY THE WAY HONEY I WANT YOU TO LEND ME A BATTALION'
HUH? WHAT THE HELL FOR?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'WHAT FOR?' I WANT A FLEET TO COMMAND IN THIS BATTLE TOO!

FORGET IT!

THIS BATTLE AIN'T GONNA BE NO PICNIC FOR LITTLE GIRLS UH UH!

ALL YOU GOT TO DO IS BEHAVE YOURSELF AND WAIT HERE IN BED FOR MY TRIUMPHANT RETURN

SAY WHAT?!!

YOU SCUMBAG!! HOW DARE YOU TREAT A WOMAN LIKE THAT!

KRAKK

KRAKK

KRAKK

KRANGG

ON! ON!

ALL RIGHT YOU WIN I'LL TELL GAEI TO PUT TOGETHER A FREE UNIT FOR YOU

YAHOO! THANK YOU, DEAR-- YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING!

HEY WHERE YOU GOING?

IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GET READY

READY? READY FOR WHAT?

YOU'RE SO THICK SOMETIMES! FOR THE **WEDDING**, BOZO! OUR LITTLE LOVEBIRDS ARE GETTING HITCHED!

IT'S THE WEDDING FOR THE HEIRESS TO THE ENTIRE GALACTIC EMPIRE YOU KNOW-- I'VE GOT TO LOOK MY BEST!

I'LL WEAR MY **SEXIEST** DRESS FOR YOU-- JUST YOU WAIT, LOVER!

HUH!

I HATE THIS KINDA CRAP

YOU WOMEN ARE ALWAYS RUNNIN' ON ABOUT CLOTHES MAKEUP.. DRIVES ME NUTS!

PBLLFLT! WHY DON'T YOU TRY BRUSHING YOUR HAIR FOR ONCE?!

DO IT FOR ME, OKAY, SWEETHEART? YOU'LL LOOK EVEN **MORE** HANDSOME!

YEAH, YEAH.

DAMN IT'S SHEDDING SEASON TOO..

♫
♫
♪
♫
....
....
HMMMm...
HEE HEE
SEXY LADY ♡
HAH!

I GIVE UP !!

IT'S JUST NOT ME NO WAY!

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LOOKS GOOD IN WHATEVER SHE THROWS ON! WHO NEEDS MAKEUP ANYHOW?

SRSH

SRSH

SRSH

PRINCESS KAHM DEAR I'VE LEFT THE DRESS IN YOUR BEDROOM

THANKS MOMO! I CAN'T WAIT! ♡

WHERE'S TETSUYA ?

WELL IF YOU MUST KNOW. HE'S STILL ASLEEP

HE'S WHAT?! WHAT IN THE WORLD DOES HE THINK HE'S DOING ANYWAY!? THAT LITTLE SKUNK !

AW. C'MON.. ANOTH'R FI' MINNITS...
=Yaawn=
THAT'S WHAT YOU ALWAYS SAY!!
JEEZ. THERE'S A TON OF TIME LEFT.
THE WEDDING'S NOT GONNA START WITHOUT US
SO. I SEE
GUESS I'M GOING TO HAVE TO USE FORCE, THEN
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KOOCHIE KOOCHIE KOO!!
YAHAHAHA!!
O-OKAY! I'LL GET UP!
S-STOP!!
LUCKY GUY

NOW HURRY UP AND GET DRESSED!
GET DRESSED? WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS OUTFIT?
GET REAL!!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE CROWN PRINCE TETSUYA! YOU'VE GOT TO DRESS THE PART!
SINCE WHEN DID YOU GET SO STUFFY, HUH...?
YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE THOSE FANCY CLOTHES
FWOP
BLERK!
HEY!! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU--
I'M CHANGING, OF COURSE! SO?
AT LEAST DO IT BEHIND A CURTAIN OR SOMETHING!!
WHATEVER FOR? YOU'VE SEEN IT ALL BEFORE!

OH HO! I GET IT NOW! YOU WANTED TO UNDRESS ME YOURSELF YOU LECHER, YOU!
THAT IS NOT WHAT I MEANT, YOU DUMMY!
I MEAN, YOU KNOW, I
. . . .
. . . .
KAHM
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING.. WE REALLY ARE GETTING MARRIED AREN'T WE YOU AND ME FOREVER
UH, YEAH
WE SURE ARE
NOW WHAT?
DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WE MET?

"I WAS FIGHTING ON EARTH, WHEN SUDDENLY THERE YOU WERE."

"YEAH, WE SURE GOT OFF TO A GOOD START, TOO."

I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF I'D WON?

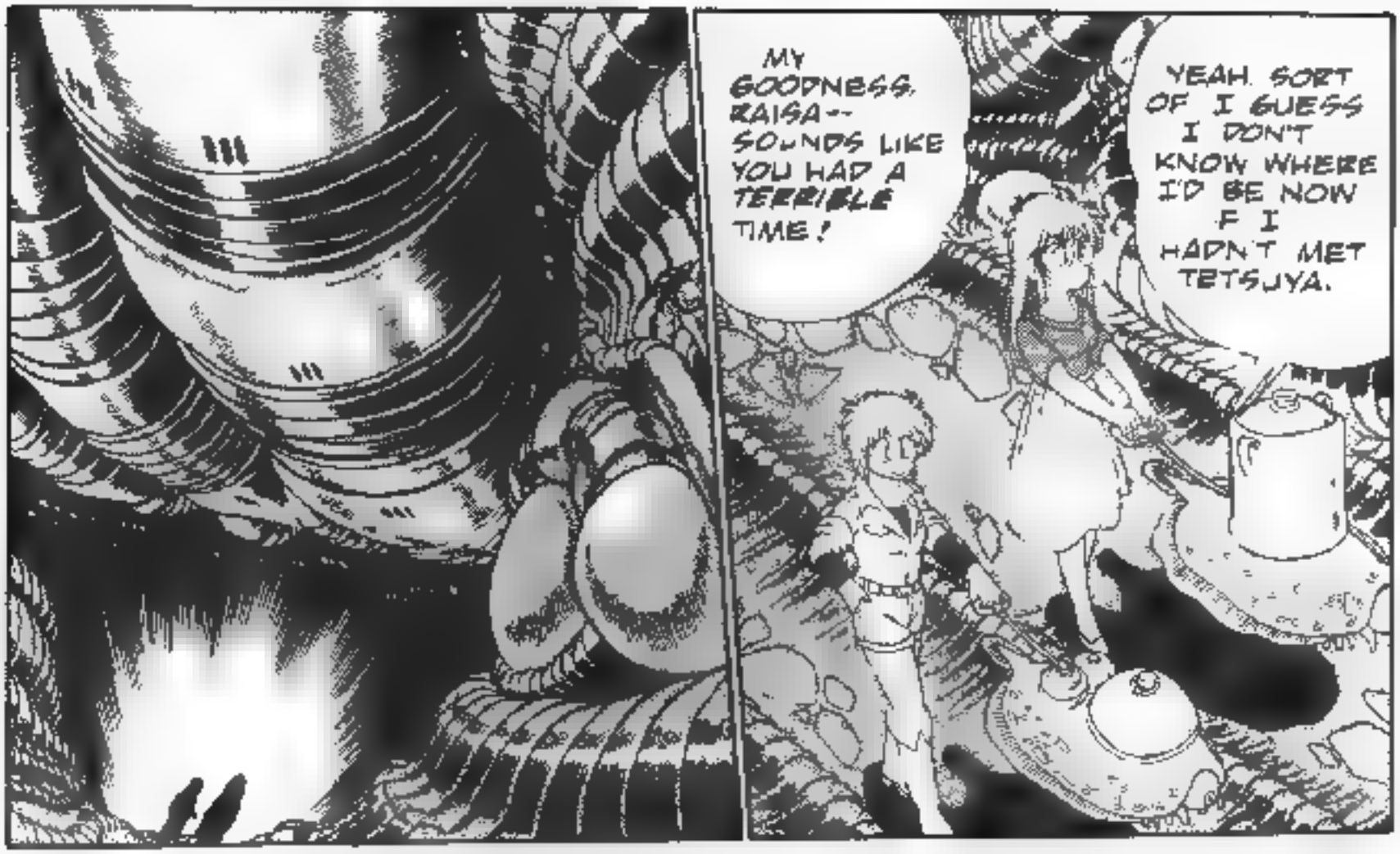
GUESS I WOULDN'T BE HERE TO THINK ABOUT IT HA HA HA

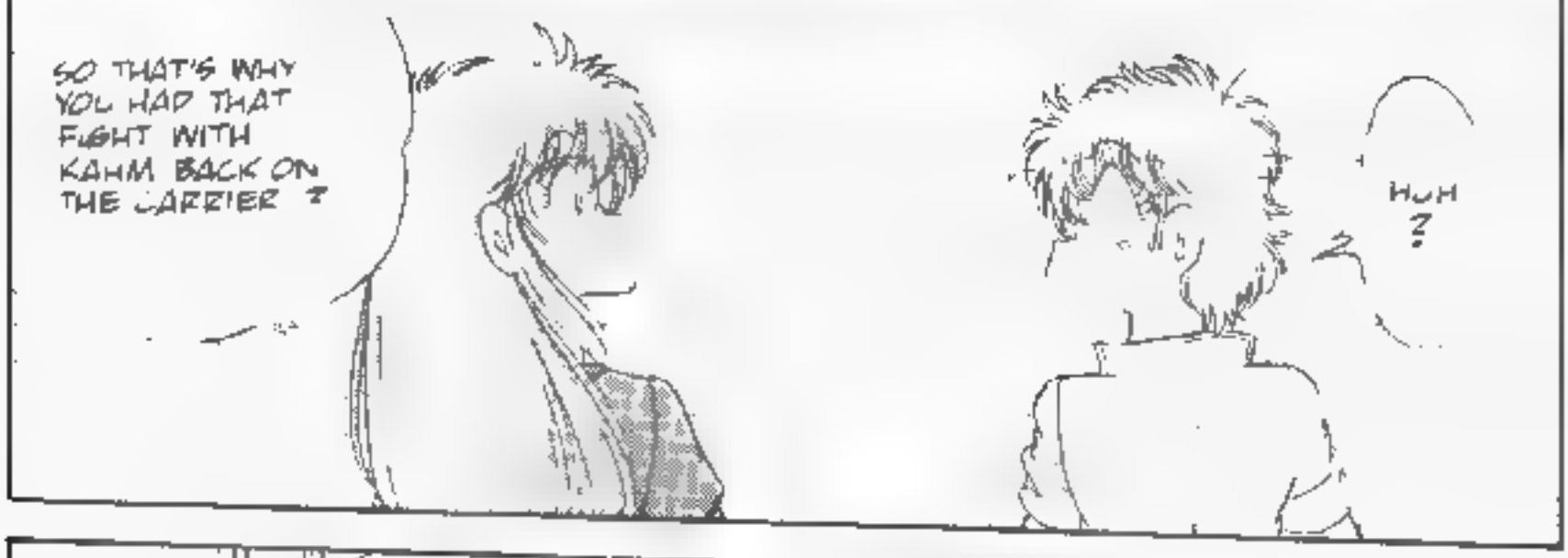
BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT WAS SUCH A *FATEFUL* WAY TO MEET?

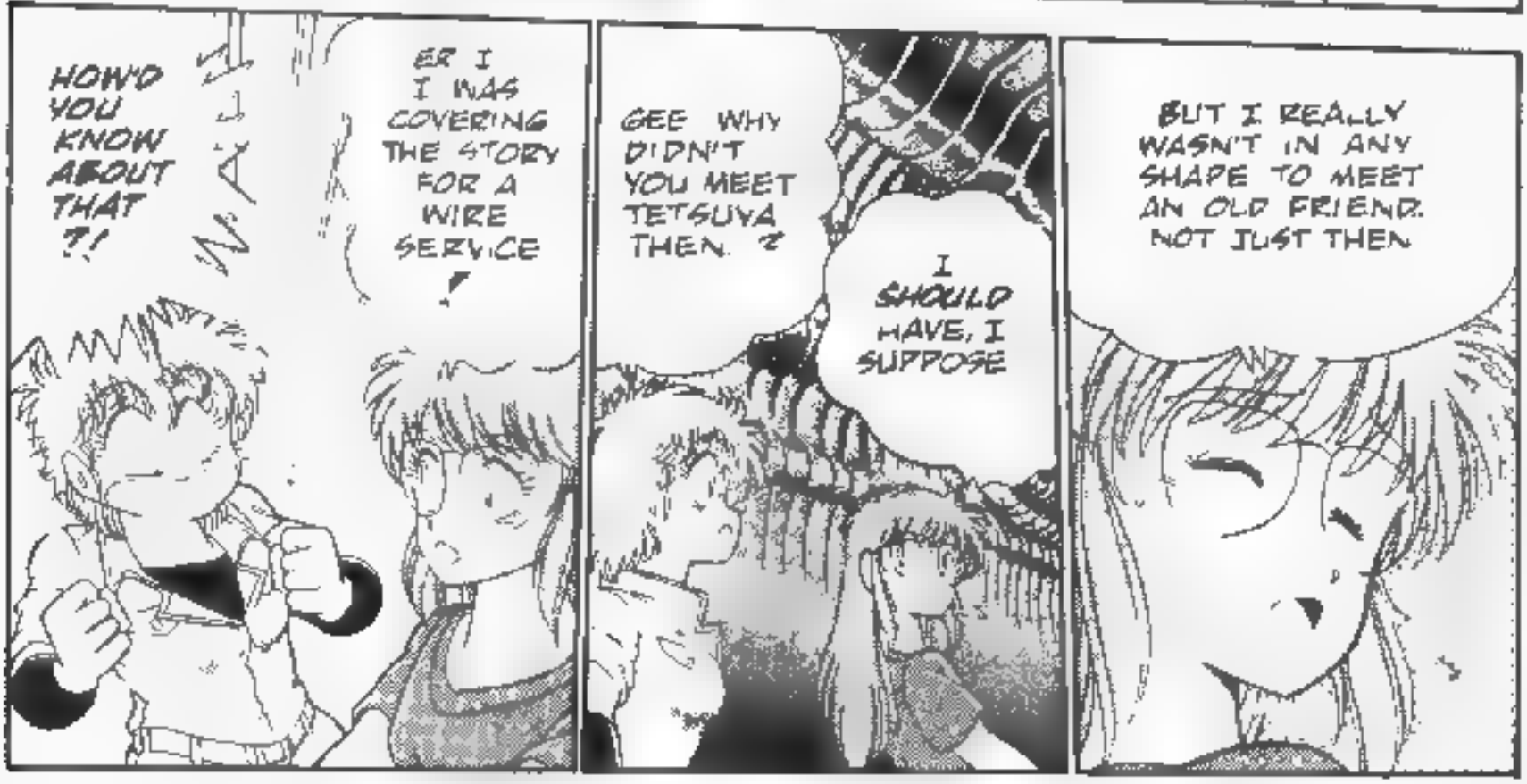
FATAL, YOU MEAN -- ONE FALSE STEP AND MY *HEAD* WOULD'VE ROLLED!

OH STOP MOANING ABOUT IT! IT'S STILL ATTACHED, ISN'T IT?! ♡

NOT CED, DID YOU?


MY GOODNESS, RAISA-- SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAD A TERRIBLE TIME!
YEAH. SORT OF. I GUESS I DON'T KNOW WHERE I'D BE NOW IF I HADN'T MET TETSUYA.


SO THAT'S WHY YOU HAD THAT FIGHT WITH KAHM BACK ON THE CARRIER?
HUH?


HOW'D YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?!
ER I I WAS COVERING THE STORY FOR A WIRE SERVICE!
GEE WHY DIDN'T YOU MEET TETSUYA THEN?
I SHOULD HAVE, I SUPPOSE
BUT I REALLY WASN'T IN ANY SHAPE TO MEET AN OLD FRIEND. NOT JUST THEN.

JILEHR...!!

WHAT'S UP? YOU FEELING OKAY?

N-NO... I JUST THOUGHT...

JUST YOUR IMAGINATION, I BET.

IT'S A CREEPY SHIP, ALL RIGHT... YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO POP OUT AT YOU.

I MEAN, THE BATH TUB'S GOT A *SEA SERPENT* IN IT, SO WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

ACTUALLY, THOUGH, HE'S KINDA SWEET. I PLAY WITH HIM EVERY TIME I TAKE A BATH, EVEN!

REALLY... HOW NICE FOR YOU...

YES, SHES RIGHT...

...I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS...

HEY, YOU GONNA TAKE ALL GODDAMN DAY?!

OH, SHUT UP! MY MAKEUP ISN'T GOING ON RIGHT !!

RIGHT ON! ALL YOU CAN DRINK !

AND ALL YOU CAN EAT, TOO!

NOW ALL WE NEED IS SOME BABES... !

GANGWAY !! GANGWAY !!

KA-TA-KA-TA

WE'RE LATE! WE'RE LATE! FOR A VERY IMPOR--

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING... I HAVE TO WEAR THIS?!

TO BE CONTINUED...

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OUTLANDERS™

BOOK XXII

by JOHJI MANABE

STUDIO PROTEUS